

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

REGISTERED No. 48.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXIII.
NUMBER 22.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, MAY 29, 1876.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 22ND MAY.

WE ARE glad to notice a sensible fall in the death-rate of Calcutta. The return for the week ending the 13th instant gives the total number of deaths at 244. The number of deaths from cholera has not however decreased—the total number of deaths from this fell disease during the week referred to was 50. It is observable that the mortuary returns of Calcutta are not a correct representation of mortality within the town. Dead bodies are brought from the suburbs and also from the Mofussil for cremation in the town, but no distinction is made in the roll Dr. Payne ought to look to this.

MR. GLAZIER'S further notes on the Rungpore records are very interesting. He divides the present volume into ten chapters, viz., I. The police and crime; II. Criminal justice under Mohammedan law; III. The jail; IV. Excise; V. Developing the resources; VI. The Frontiers; VII. List of district officers; VIII. Comparative tables of prices and produce; IX. Increase in the population; X. The zemindar and ryots. The facts given in these chapters throw a flood of light on early British rule, and on the gradual development of the resources of the soil.

MR. GLAZIER gives the following as a test of the general prosperity of the people:

"There is one luxury of civilization which the people have largely adopted,—the use of the English umbrella. It is said that the first of the Supreme Court Judges, when he landed in Calcutta expressed a wish that soon the poor natives might be provided with shoes and stockings for their naked feet. Luckily that aspiration has not been realized; and, with the exception of the Baboo class who revel in stockings down at heel and in sad want of darning, the feet of the people are free. But the umbrella has won its way. Mr. Wordsworth early noticed the increase of luxury in the use of umbrellas and palanquins, and proposed to Government to levy a tax on them. Had his proposal been accepted the tax would have been a most prolific one, but the umbrella referred to by him was the large chhatra carried by a servant. This is now used only by a few old-fashioned zemindars, and the heavy bamboo umbrella of the common people is also fast being superseded by the light English sunshade or umbrella, which is in universal use. While the Baboos delight in the bright coloured blue or pease sunshades, and a few take to those with glaring yellow or scarlet hues, the simple white cotton or the common brown or black gingham is the most universal. While the inspector of police may have a red frill tacked all round his umbrella in remembrance of the old chhatra, and the constable have a white cover over his in imitation of the *sahab*, almost every ryot you meet passing along the road carries some specimen of this useful article, and whether in fair weather or rain, sunshine or moonlight, always outspread. Hardly a cartman squats on his bamboo cart behind his pair of bullocks but carries his umbrella, often of the brightest colour procurable; but perhaps the climax is reached when cow-boys of tender age, with no clothes to spoil, dance about with their open umbrellas at the time of sunset.

As the common bamboo article costs from 3 to 4 annas, while the cheapest gingham is Re. 1, the great increase in the use of this article of luxury may be accepted as a very good proof of the improved condition of the people.

This popular use of the English umbrella, associated as the umbrella is in the Eastern mind with the idea of sovereignty, is very suggestive of the fact that under the British empire the dream of many an Indian potentate has been realized, and the whole world of India has been brought, to use Eastern parlance, under the shadow of one Umbrella."

Hurrah! for the umbrella!

TO WHOM does the grass of the field belong? This question was lately raised at Mysore. Hitherto the grass-cutters used to cut it away for supply to troops without paying any compensation to the ryots, who as a matter of course quarrelled, but generally without success. They have at last found a protector in their Deputy Commissioner, who puts the case as follows:

"The villagers naturally and rightly look upon the grass of their fields as their own private property, available for home use or to find a ready sale in the Cantonment and Pettah of Bangalore. On the other hand, grass-cutters must find grass if they are to remain in their places, and thus they are driven to what is actually trespass and theft. Further they have to pretend to a right to take the grass and thus many of them go in gangs and establish, where they can, a sort of terrorism over the villagers. As waste merges into cultivated lands, the difficulty becomes greater and even as regards waste lands the same difficulty now exists, inasmuch as they are yearly sold for grazing purposes and so become private property to all intents and purposes. Good Hurried grass is, however, chiefly found on the borders of and inside of cultivated fields, where it is a saleable commodity, and which no grass-cutter should touch. If grass-cutters are interdicted, as evidently they must be, from trespassing upon private property, other arrangements will have to be made for the supply of grass to the troop horses. Such arrangements may involve a difficulty, but I should be failing in my duty if I did not point out the dangers of the present system, and which at any moment is likely to involve a serious fight between villagers and grass-

cutters and native camp-followers. If tenders be invited for the supply of grass, I believe that the villagers would readily come forward to supply the requisite amount. The loss to grass-cutters in being thus deprived of their living would be great, but probably they would come to an understanding in time with the villagers and some of their caste would eventually take up lands and supply the grass."

The Chief Commissioner has cut the gordian knot by withholding the sale of unoccupied lands. But what about the occupied lands? The law is that whatever is on the ground up to the heavens belongs to him who owns the ground, unless there be special conditions to the contrary.

The MADRAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is preparing a memorial to be sent to the Government of India on the subject of the Presidency Magistrates' Bill, which is now before the legislature. The Chamber, we understand, intends protesting against the extension of the powers of Presidency Magistrates which that bill contemplates. What is our Chamber about?

CHOLERA has been so prevalent in parts of Mysore and Bangalore that it is reported that in one instance the handful of inhabitants of an entire hamlet not twenty miles from Bangalore were swept away by the epidemic. A correspondent writing to the *Bangalore Examiner* says that, at the hamlet of Gairpollim, a road-side village on the road to Mysore and about 18 miles from Bangalore, there lived a few ryots not quite twenty in number. The whole fell victims to cholera; and the correspondent says that the cattle and property of the villagers were totally uncared-for after death of the owners. The writer does not say whether the police buried the bodies of the poor villagers and took charge of their property.

IT IS NOTIFIED that gratuity may, at the discretion of the Government of India, or, with the sanction of the Government of India, on the application of the recipient, be converted either to a life annuity or to a temporary life annuity, or to annuity payable for a certain number of years, with remainder to the recipient's heirs in case of his death.

TUESDAY, 23RD MAY.

ARE SALE certificates at Government sales of landed estates required to be registered? The Collector of Bellary holds that as sale certificates are considered to be documents, their registration is compulsory in cases in which the value of the property is hundred rupees and upwards.

IT IS REPORTED from Mysore that heavy rain fell there on the night of the 9th instant, and that some of the tanks and supply channels received about two months' supply of water.

HOW THE COTTON manufactures of England have destroyed the indigenous industry of India. In 1804 the total number of looms at work in the Cuddapa district was 19,626, and these looms produced annually 1,235,412 pieces of cloth, valued 5,57,787 star pagodas. The looms, moreover, produced cumblies and blankets valued at about fifty thousand pagodas. Under favorable circumstances it was said that the looms in the district could produce cloths valued at twenty lacs per annum. It appears, however, that the number of looms at work in 1875 were 8,702, employing 14,508 workmen, and the value of cloths produced was a little above a lakh of rupees. What a falling-off there?

AT A MEETING of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce held on the 19th ultimo, the following letter was read from the India Office:

"I am directed by Lord Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th instant, and to express the gratification with which he has received a copy of the resolution of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce passed on Wednesday last. Lord Salisbury is fully convinced that the fiscal policy which he has earnestly pressed upon the Government of India, and which has met with your support, is calculated to promote the best interests of the people of India."

Still harping on my daughter!

THE AMERICAN papers state that President Grant has signed the bill, substituting silver for the fractional paper currency, and has vetoed the bill reducing the salary of the President of the United States after the year 1877. The Finance Committee of the Senate has reported a bill providing that there shall be a coinage of silver dollars, which shall be legal tender for amounts not exceeding twenty dollars, except for customs duties and interest on the public

debt. The bill also provides that the trade dollar shall no longer be legal tender.

A BERLIN TELEGRAM lately received in London says:—The Russian Government have allowed concessions and subsidies for steam navigation lines between the ports of the Amur country, Saghalin, and the mouth of the Yangtze-kiang.

THE INDIAN SPECTATOR of Bombay, which we are glad to see is steadily winning its way to public favor, says: "We observe that one of the ten malcontents who disturbed the harmony of the Northbrook meeting at Calcutta has addressed letters to the *Native Opinion* and the *Indu Prakash*. Our contemporaries have done well in not publishing the letters, for a more disgraceful agitation has never yet been set on foot by persons who profess to be the friends of their country." With regard to the late administration although our contemporary is of opinion that it was not at all brilliant, "it must be admitted," he observes, "that it was the most honest administration we have had for some time." The writer continues:

"Honesty was the essential feature of the late regime, and it gives us very great pleasure to see that Calcutta has done fitting honour to the last Viceroy. We are not surprised that the Anglo-Indian community has not viewed the movements with particular favour. In defiance of its long established prejudices, which no Viceroy had yet attempted to disregard, Lord Northbrook befriended the people of this country in a manner which has secured their good-will for the Government."

This is the honest truth.

BOMBAY has started an important enquiry about the falling-off of Indian industry and art. The following circular on the subject has been issued by the Ahmedabad Committee:

"SIR,—It is now well known to all intelligent natives of India that owing to the introduction of foreign machine-made, and therefore far cheaper, goods of various sorts in India, many of our manufactures have ceased to exist, and the remaining ones are expiring. This wholesale destruction of our art and of the many trades and professions which they created and supported has thrown hundreds of thousands of our working men, petty traders, and merchants out of employment. The evil and with it the poverty of the country is yearly increasing. The rising generation is highly embarrassed for want of employment, and the necessary means of support. To check the growing evil and to save our dear country from further ruin, societies are formed, or are being formed in several cities of India. It is highly desirable that these patriotic associations should correspond with and assist each other. Our united efforts will have more chance of success. We should, therefore, connect ourselves with each other. We are desired by the Managing Committee of the Society for the Revival and encouragement of Native Industry at Ahmedabad to enquire whether you agree with us in these views, and are willing to receive and answer our communications on these subjects. We are now collecting facts regarding the arts and manufactures that formerly flourished in the various cities and provinces of India, but have now ceased or are about to die in consequence of the introduction of cheaper foreign goods. We will feel greatly obliged by your informing us of the arts and manufactures that flourished in your city and the surrounding districts, the foreign goods that now supply their places, and the manufactures that flourish at present with such details as can be obtained regarding them. We will also thank you if you will kindly write to us the names and addresses of patriotic and noble-minded gentlemen in your own city and province, as well as elsewhere in India with whom we can communicate respecting these matters. Trusting to be excused for the trouble we give you, and expecting an early reply."

Similar statistics ought to be collected in every part of British India. The Government ought to assist in this good work.

THE PIONEER on the Indian Civil Service: "The Indian Civil Service, as at present constituted, owes its origin to Lord Cornwallis. From the very first it was stamped with class prejudice, not to say injustice. The principle was that, while all the lucrative appointments in all departments were given to covenanted Europeans, almost all the real work was done by Asiatics with little or no pay. It is actually a fact that at first the moonsiffs were 'left to find a subsistence in a small commission on the value of suits' (*vide Marshman, Vol. II., p. 38*). How this system worked may be read in the pages of the Hon'ble F. Shore, himself a member of the privileged class." Our contemporary says—"all that state of things has passed away." We cannot say—it has. Still the Indian is the beast of burden, call him amla, assistant, deputy or whatever else you like.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH MAY.

THE BOMBAY SPECIAL of the *Pioneer* says: "It is almost to be regretted that the speeches made in the council chamber either at Calcutta or Bombay, or at the municipal meetings, are not more studied, or readable when made. The art of public speaking

in India is generally neglected. Even among our barristers, there is less effort in this line than there should be. When reported by the press, the speeches made in India are generally, and only with a few exceptions, stale, flat, and unprofitable." The truth is there is now less culture among our public speakers.

THE STATESMAN has a powerful article on the employment of Natives in the service of their own country. Our contemporary thus begins:

"What the present figures are we do not know, but five or six years ago there were 15 native gentlemen in the whole country drawing an income of Rs. 1,000 and upwards from the State; and but four altogether who were drawing Rs. 1,100 and upwards. Thus out of nearly 200 millions of people, one only in every fifty millions was thought worthy of being paid Rs. 1,100 a month; and about one in every eighteen millions Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,100. There are probably not less, meanwhile than 1,000 Englishmen in the country drawing Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 20,000 a month; and we are never weary of talking of the beneficence of our rule, and ready on all occasions to reproach the people for their ingratitude. Why are there no district judges, we ask, in India selected from the ranks of native gentlemen? There are probably 300 of these judgeships in all in the country, and not one single native we believe is there amongst them. The men who are answerable for this state of things are the men who sit at the Council Board with Lord Lytton, and who are holding prayer meetings for the conversion of the people, and professing to be full of philanthropy towards them. The selfishness of it all is surpassing. And then what an oppressive power Russia is; and to what slavery is she not reducing the Turkomans!"

We ostentatiously put one native upon the Bench of the High Court, to make an excuse before the world for excluding the whole race from the 200 judgeships of the land. And we think it can last. And at Simla they will put on more "praying power" for the conversion of the people.

Again:

"Prayers and professions are an abomination, when substituted in this way for earnestness of purpose to do what is right. The guilt of our conduct clings more closely to the Viceroy's Council than to any other body whatever; because a clear ringing utterance in that Council upon the subject, and persistence for twelve months in enforcing the just claims of the people, would overthrow the present system altogether. The truth is, there is no sympathy whatever with the reasonable aspirations of the people; and we shall continue in our selfishness to make them hewers of wood and drawers of water to us, till another mutiny comes upon us. No country in the world was ever ruled as we are ruling India, and to suppose that it can last is insanity. One man in 50 millions drawing Rs. 1,100 a month in our service? And then we wonder that the people are not converted; and that the Gospel is anything but glad tidings to them! Conceal it from ourselves as we may, there is no conscience whatever in what we do in this matter. If any appointment whatever over Rs. 700 or Rs. 800 a month falls vacant, we put the native community out of nomination for it at a stroke. It is one of ourselves only, that can possibly have a claim to an appointment on such pay. Thus the office of Deputy Legal Remembrancer with Rs. 1,500 a month attached to it, fell vacant the other day in this city, and instead of appointing a native gentleman thereto, it is at once given to a young unfledged barrister, who happens to be a friend of the Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Judicial Department. We doubt if there was any real necessity for this office at all; but when instituted it was given out that it would be conferred upon a native gentleman, particularly as natives had shewn a peculiar aptitude for law. A native gentleman of eminence as a lawyer has already held the office of Remembrancer, and yet no one is found qualified for the post of Deputy. It is this exclusion of the people from all positions of emolument, that makes them discontented with our rule. Are they not men with like passions as ourselves? It is our own conduct that fills the country with disaffection; the legitimate aspirations of the people being stifled under a thick cloud, while our jobbery fills the services themselves with despair. Be lucky enough that your name is Jackson instead of Johnson, and your career is safe. Be Mr. Mangles' friend and 50 millions of natives in the one scale will at once kick the beam with his proteges in the other. And we persuade ourselves that it will last. It is impossible."

If this generous spirit had been general in the Anglo-Indian Press, the Government could not have long resisted the claims of the people to justice.

THE INDIAN PUBLIC OPINION hears that merchants and traders of Peshawar have been informed by the Amir of Cabul that the Khyber Pass is now open for traffic, and they may now bring goods to Cabul without fear.

THE IMMACULATE POLICE again. We take the following Police report from the Statesman:

"A woman who kept a shop in Sealdah, died about the middle of March last, and being possessed of a large sum of money which were deposited in three earthen or brass pots, believed to amount to about rupees three thousand, she desired her sister before her death, to bury them under ground. This was done. The day she died, the Police took charge of the whole of the property on the ground that the deceased had left no relative to take care of it, when in fact her sister who had attended upon her was living in the house at the time of her death. The Police made an inventory of the property after their own fashion. They did not call upon the neighbours to witness the property they were taking charge of and removing, but some men of their own clique were brought into the place as witnesses. How they came to know about the money that was buried is not known, but they took the pots away without counting the money over in the presence of any person whose position might have been a sufficient guarantee that they had not taken away more money than what was said to be in the pots. In reporting the matter to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, the Inspector informed that gentleman that the deceased had a sister, but they did not know her whereabouts, when in point of fact she was attending the Police Court, and might have been produced at any time. In the mean time, a man presented a petition to the Deputy Commissioner, stating that he was the heir to the property. The petition was referred to the Superintendent for report, and instead of the Superintendent

holding a local inquiry and reporting as to the truth or otherwise of the statement of the petitioner, the Inspector sent in a report, stating that he had every reason to believe that the petitioner was entitled to the property. The sister of the deceased seeing the game the Police were playing, engaged the services of Mr. Leslie, the solicitor, who addressed the Deputy Commissioner of Police on the subject, several letters, and not receiving a reply to any of them, he preferred a charge in behalf of the deceased's sister before the Magistrate, who promptly took up the case. The men in whose presence the Police alleged they had made an inventory of the property have been before the Magistrate, and from their account it was clear that they had no business to have volunteered to be present when an inventory of the property was taken. It turns out that the whole of the money found in the pots amounts to about 800, when from the appearance of the pots and from the statement of the sister, it was evident that the deceased had a much larger sum of money.

The Magistrate being curious to know why the Deputy Commissioner had treated the attorney's letters with silence, and not vouchsafed even a reply to one of them, called for the production of the letters. The Deputy Commissioner declined to give them up on the ground that the letters formed the secrets of his department.

Further particulars of this extraordinary case will appear in due course."

Sir Richard Temple has promised that he will keep a sharp eye upon the doings of the Police.

We give the following extract from a letter published in a morning paper, but which had escaped our notice:

"The Punjab Northern States Railway is getting a very bad name through the intolerable tyranny exercised by the guards on native passengers. On Sunday (yesterday) when the day train was coming along from J. Lum, a poor native woman had asked for a little water as she reached station after station without being heeded by the guards, who instead of seeing water supplied to the passengers, were amusing themselves by squinting water at one another. At last the poor mother held the child out in her arm; the infant was so thirsty that its tongue fell out perched, and just as some good Samaritan of a Brahmin was going to give the child some water, the guard dashed it out of his hand, and after anathematizing the woman for holding the child as she did whistled the train out of the station. So much for the Punjab Railway."

Is the Punjab under the civilized and Christian rule of England?

MR. SAUNDERS, the late Resident of Hyderabad, it is stated, will return to India as Chief Commissioner of Mysore and will also be dubbed K. C. S. I. Happy man!

THE DELHI GAZETTE gives the following description of a periodical wind, called Haimattan, which blows three or four times a year from the interior of the African continent towards the Atlantic coast:

"The period of its prevalence is stated to be chiefly from the end of November to the beginning of April. Its duration at any time varies from one to six days, and its force is always very moderate. A fog, thick enough to render the disc of the sun red, always accompanies this wind. The particles deposited by the fog upon the leaves of vegetables and on the black skin of the natives, appear always white, but the nature of this whitish matter was not ascertained. It was remarked that this fog was speedily dissipated by the sea; for although the wind was sensible at sea at many leagues from the coast, the fog became rapidly less dense, and at the distance of little more than a league disappeared. One of the characteristics of this wind and fog is extreme dryness. When it continues for any time the foliage of the orange and lemon trees exposed to it becomes shrivelled and withered. So extreme is this dryness, that the covers of books, even when closed, locked in chests, and enveloped in linen cloth, were curved by it just as if they had been exposed to the heat of a strong fire. The panels of doors and frames of windows and the furniture were often cracked and broken by it. Its effects upon the human body were not less marked. It was found that its first breath completely banished intermittent fevers. Those who had been enfeebled by the practice of excessive bleeding, then prevalent there, soon recovered their strength. Epidemic and remittent fevers, which had a local prevalence, disappeared as if by enchantment. But the most wonderful effect of this atmospheric phenomenon was that it rendered infection incommunicable, even when applied by artificial means, such as inoculation."

THURSDAY, 25TH MAY.

A HORRIBLE CATASTROPHE occurred in the Mormon chapel, Salt Lake City, in America. It was in consequence of the explosion of four powder magazines which contained 14 tons and two cart-loads of gun powder. It is believed that the explosion occurred through one of these magazines being fired at by one of two boys who went out shooting and of whom no more trace has been found than some shattered fragments of their bodies. Great many lives were lost, and every house in the city was more or less injured, some people died from mere fright.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the Indian Daily News says that at a meeting of the S. P. K. at which the Archbishop of Canterbury presided, Sir Bartle Frere in a speech gave a glowing account of the readiness of the natives of India to receive the Gospel. Sir Bartle seemed to be of opinion that Christianity has been largely "popularised" by the visit of the Prince of Wales and his suite to India. We wish Sir Bartle Frere had given a few "facts" to prove his position.

SOME NATIVE GENTLEMEN of Madras have offered a donation of Rs. 1,000 to found a prize in honor of

Sir Alexander Arbuthnot for the best composition in English to be written off-hand in the examination room, at the time of the annual examination, by a student of the Senior Department of the Madras Presidency College.

IT WOULD SEEM that the sharp comments of the English press on H. R. H. the Prince of Wales' presence at the exhibition of elephant fights in Baroda and elsewhere have had some effect, for we learn that H. R. H. declined to attend a bull fight in Spain, because it would be inconsistent with his position as Patron of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

THE FAMINE OF BENGAL was the subject of La Baze prize at Cambridge last year and Mr. T. Williams was the successful competitor. We have not seen the essay, but the anti-feminists do not speak well of it.

THREE JAPANESE have come to Darjeeling to study tea cultivation. This is enterprising.

WE ARE glad to observe that a meeting was held in Bombay to commemorate the memory of the late Pandit Vishnu Parashram Shastri, Mr. Nana Moroji presiding. It was resolved to raise a fund by general subscription with a view to perpetuate his memory, and to devote the same in his name to the promotion of marriages of widows among high-caste Hindus.

THE CHRISTIAN ZEALOTS, who make so light of outraged feeling of Hindus on the conversion of any one of their flock to Christianity, will do well to look to the excited feeling in the Christian dependency of Turkey. The origin of the Salonica murders is said to be due to a young Christian girl wishing to become a Mahomedan. The religious feeling is the same everywhere.

FRIDAY, 26TH MAY.

WE TAKE the following from the Madras Mail:

"The law's severity—

IN INDIA. At the recent Criminal Sessions of the High Court of Madras before Mr. Justice Holwell Mootooloo, pleaded guilty to having committed a house breaking by night, theft of articles about Rs. 10 in value, in a dwelling house, and theft after previous conviction. He had been convicted on 3 previous occasions, and lately completed a term of 7 years' imprisonment. He was sentenced to be transported beyond the seas for the term of his natural life.

IN ENGLAND. At the recent Middlesex Sessions before Mr. P. H. Edlin, Q.C., the Assistant Judge, Alfred Green 33, was indicted for having stolen a sovereign in a house breaking by night, theft of articles about Rs. 10 in value, in a dwelling house, and theft after previous conviction. He had been convicted on 16 previous occasions, and lately completed a term of 7 years' imprisonment. The Court sentenced the prisoner to 10 years' penal servitude, to be followed by seven years' police supervision.

It will be observed that the patience of the Madras High Court was exhausted after three previous convictions, and that of the English Court is not yet exhausted, though Green had no less than sixteen previous convictions proved against him. Mootooloo is a degraded, and uncivilised native of India; Green a man who is probably to a certain degree educated, and intelligent. Yet the former is doomed to penal servitude for life, the latter to but ten years of such servitude.

"The Indian Courts, in their anxiety to protect society against the depredations of habitual criminals make, in our opinion, far too free a use of weapons that should be reserved for other occasions."

This is too true.

THE BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY invites Native candidates for the office of Assistant Engineer. Mr. Pedder, the Municipal Commissioner, Bombay, at one of the recent meetings of the Municipality, is reported to have said "that there would be a vacancy shortly for the post of Assistant Deputy Engineer, at a salary of Rs. 400 per month, and if any Native gentleman applied for it he should be happy to give his claims every consideration. If a Native gentleman took that situation and was able to qualify himself afterwards for the office of Executive Engineer of Bombay, he (Mr. Pedder) should be very glad to see him in that position." In Calcutta Natives are sedulously shunt out from the higher ranks of the Engineering and Conservancy departments, though they would be cheap, respectable and efficient.

THE EAST understands that the Government with a view to find the best practicable passage for boats and steamers plying between Eastern Bengal and Calcutta, has deputed Babu Omullo Churn Mullick, Deputy Collector to investigate and report on the routes proposed for a canal. The canal is to be from Calcutta to Madaripore and the different routes proposed for it are as follows:

1. A direct canal proposed by Sir Richard Temple from Calcutta to Madaripore and thence to Megna by one of the natural channels.
2. A canal from Calcutta to Khoolna and thence by the Atarabanga River to Mudhoomuttee and thence to Megna by the natural channels.
3. From Mudhoomuttee River to Barisal by improving the existing channels and thence by River to Megna.
4. From Calcutta to Khoolna and thence by canalizing that portion of the Byrub River which lies between Allypore and Cachoos and thence a canal direct to Barisal or Phooltulla gang.

THE SAME paper proposes a public memorial to Newab Abdul Gunny C. S. I. in recognition of his public benefactions. We second the proposal.

THE ENGLISHMAN hears that the object of Sir Louis Malet's deputation by the Secretary of State was to take the fiscal policy out of the hands of the Government of India. Of course Lord Northbrook would not yield his powers and privileges. We have heard that whatever might have been Sir Louis Malet's view before he came to India, his mind was entirely disabused by a few days' conference with the late Viceroy. It is believed that he ultimately fully acquiesced in the policy of Lord Northbrook.

THE SAME PAPER finds fault with the commercial member of the Governor General's Council for his reticence on all local questions brought before the Council. But Mr. Bullen Smith is not singular. It was the same with all commercial members from the days of Mr. FitzWilliam. Mr. David Cowie we believe has been elected a member of the Governor General's Council no less than four times, and yet how rarely has he opened his lips. The Commercial members shew some activity when the Budgets are discussed. In this respect we have every reason to be satisfied with the Bengali members of the Governor General's Council. They have always done their duty manfully.

JAILORS in Bengal are now classified into six grades. The pay of the first grade is fixed at Rs. 400 and of the last at Rs. 50. A special Jailor for the Alipore Jail has been appointed on Rs. 500.

WE ARE SORRY to hear that the Civil Surgeon of Hooghly has been suspended on a rather serious charge.

IT IS STATED that three Japanese naval officers are to be given appointments in ships of the Royal Navy of England in order that they may gain some practical knowledge of the interior economy of Her Majesty's ships, for the information and guidance of the Japanese Government. Japan is ahead.

SATURDAY, 27TH MAY.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of the Bengal Embankment Manual by Mr. Harrison, Magistrate and Collector of Midnapore. We hope to review it in our next.

THE LAST NUMBER of the *Indian Charivari* is quite up to mark. The Album portrait of Sir William Robinson of Madras is excellent. The Cartoon of the Queen's new title is capital. The title is presented by Doctor Benjamin to Britannia as a bottle of medicine, marked, "Poison. For external use only." Doctor Benjamin says—"Pray, be careful, Madam, not to use this internally, or it will undermine the constitution."

WE ARE SORRY to record the death of Mr. L. Mendes. He rose from the lowest beginning and was the architect of his own fortune. He was a patron of newspaper literature, and was successively the proprietor of the *Citizen*, the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Public Opinion*, the *Empire*, and last though not the least the *Hurkaru*. He was however generally known as "Auctioneer Mendes." He has a son in the Calcutta bar.

JOHN LANG's paper the *Moff* is to be absorbed in the *Civil and Military Gazette*. That paper had a proud history of its own.

SOME OF OUR BOMBAY CONTEMPORARIES did not seem to like our statement, which we had made not without regret, that the Indian League did not enjoy the confidence of all. They would be surprised to learn that the *Indian Daily News*, which did much in establishing the League, has come to the same conclusion. Referring to the meeting called by the League for this evening our morning contemporary says: "The League has already allowed itself to be used for unworthy ends. It has not too much reputation left to be able to make further mistakes, and to fulfil its mission." Surely the *Indian Daily News* cannot be accused of party feeling in giving expression to this opinion.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the above paper says that Sir George Campbell spoke on the Bengal Famine in the House of Commons for two mortal hours. When he rose there were 30 members, present, but before he had concluded his audience dwindled down to three!

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London 18th May.—The Queen to-day held an investiture of the Order of the Bath at Windsor Castle, at which Sir Bartle Frere was invested with the Grand Cross of the Bath. Her Majesty also conferred the dignity of Knight Commander of the Bath upon Lord Suffield.

Obituary.—Colonel Meadows Taylor.

19th.—France and Italy have notified that they adhere to Prince Gortschakoff's memorandum. England, however, refuses

to join. The British Squadron in the Mediterranean has been ordered to proceed to Resika Bay, and the German Baltic Squadron proceeds thither next week.

20th The banquet given in honour of the Prince of Wales's return from India by the City Corporation in London came off last evening at Guildhall, and was a most brilliant affair. Covers were laid for 500 guests. His Royal Highness, replying to the toast of the evening, said that he looked back to his visit in India with the greatest gratification; and although his stay in that Country was unhappily only a short one, he had gathered much valuable knowledge. His reception by all classes had been of the kindest and most hospitable description and his own feelings could not sufficiently thank the Native Princes and the people in India for the warm manner of his reception. Indeed, the kindness and reception have left a lasting impression in his memory, and he felt sure that it was a sign that the Indian Empire is not disloyal to the Queen. In concluding his speech, His Royal Highness made a complimentary allusion to the Native troops. The guests at the splendid hall which followed in the grand pavilion, specially erected at Guildhall yard, numbered 5,000.

25th—There was a semi-panic on the stock exchange to-day, caused by the general anxiety on account of Eastern affairs. The Porte refuses, though unofficially, to take cognizance of Prince Gortschakoff's memorandum read at Berlin, and will reject it unless modified. Mr. Rivers Wilson leaves London to-day to take up his post in the Egyptian ministry of finance.

Vienna, 22nd May.—Count Andrassy has returned from Berlin in a speech delivered at Pesth yesterday, he alluded hopefully to the prospects of peace, and said that he was convinced that when pacific intentions of the Northern Powers made it clearly manifest, England would join the agreement made at the Berlin Conference.

WE ARE SORRY to record the death of Babu Grish Chunder Ghosh, Pleader, High Court. He was the eldest son of the late Babu Tarnek Nath Ghosh, Deputy Collector, better known as Hare's student. The deceased was a young man of good parts and excellent character.

WE ARE REQUESTED to announce that the Thirty-fourth Hare Anniversary will take place at the University House on Thursday next the 1st proximo at 5 P. M. The Hon'ble Raja Narendra Krishna Bahadur will preside and Dr. Mahendralala Sircar will deliver an address.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:

1. The Bengal Embankment Manual with maps. By H. L. Harrison B. A., C. S., late Mathematical Junior Student of Christ Church, Oxford. 2. Trade and Navigation Returns of British India for March 1876, and for the twelve months from 1st April 1875 to 31st March 1876, compared with the corresponding periods of the years 1873-74 and 1874-75. 3. Report on the Administration of the Registration Department in Assam for 1874-75. By C. A. Martin, LL.D., in charge of the Registration Department of Assam. 4. General Report on Public Instruction in Assam, for 1874-75. By C. A. Martin, LL.D. 5. Report on the Police Administration of the Central Provinces for the year 1875. 6. Further Papers in Mr. Field's case. 7. Vaishaja Ratnavali, a well known Sanskrit Treatise on practical Therapeutics, enlarged, improved and published with a Bengali translation. By Kabiraj Binod Lal Sen, Part I. 8. Bunga Dur-hana for Maugh 1282. 9. Annual Report of the Geological Survey. 10. Petition of the inhabitants of Sankrail (Mymensing) regarding the formation of a Municipal Union. 11. Note on the question of prohibiting the export of food during Famine. By Sir George Campbell.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 29, 1876.

THE CHITTAGONG CASE.

WE have already given the facts of the case as reported by our Chittagong correspondent. Another correspondent has furnished us with a connected narrative of the case, which we give below:

Lalchand Chowdry was arrested on seven different charges on the 2nd of May. The prosecution commenced on the 3rd. The Magistrate declined to postpone the case till the arrival of the defendant's counsel and also refused to make over the case to another officer, although the Magistrate was an important witness and cited by the accused as such. The prosecution having closed the Magistrate commenced on the 10th, that 3 out of the seven charges were in his opinion established by the evidence, thereby himself admitting that there were no grounds whatever for the other charges. No defence was entered upon. The Counsel for the accused arrived on the 12th, and having gone through the papers declared his opinion that there was not a particle of evidence in support of any charge, and under instructions from his client felt it his duty to present the following petition to the Judge:—

To the Sessions Judge of Chittagong.
The humble petition of Lalchand Chowdry, Merchant and Zemindar at Chittagong.

Respectfully sheweth,—

That your petitioner was, on the 2nd of May instant, arrested under a warrant issued by Mr. Kirkwood, Magistrate of this District, charging your petitioner with having, on 24th of April 1876, committed offences under Sections 143 186, 189, 353, 505, 508, and 117 of the I. P. Code.

2. That there was no complaint against your petitioner before the Magistrate, and your petitioner is not yet aware, upon what information he was so arrested.

3. That, on the day following your petitioner's arrest, Mr. Kirkwood himself proceeded to prosecute your petitioner, and examine witnesses on behalf of the prosecution.

4. That, on the close of the evidence for the prosecution, Mr. Kirkwood, on the 10th instant, framed three charges against your petitioner, under Sections 143 and 117, 353 and 117, 506 and 117 of the I. P. Code, and postponed the further hearing of the case.

5. That your petitioner has been advised by Counsel, and verily believes, that there is not a particle of evidence on the record to justify in law any charge being framed against your petitioner.

6. Your petitioner, at the commencement of the case, prayed Mr. Kirkwood to transfer the case to the file of some other Magistrate, as he was himself the prosecutor and a most important witness; but your petitioner's prayer was not granted.

7. Your petitioner fully believes, and is prepared to shew by evidence, that the proceedings in this case, taken by Mr. Kirkwood, are not *bona fide*; and, with this view, it is of the utmost importance to your petitioner that the case should be tried by another officer, and, if necessary, your petitioner should have an opportunity of examining Mr. Kirkwood himself.

8. Your petitioner is unable, on account of the shortness of the postponement granted by Mr. Kirkwood, to move the Honorable High Court to quash the proceedings as bad as in law, or to transfer the case to some other officer for trial.

9. Your petitioner, therefore, prays that this Court will be pleased, under Sec. 296 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to call for the record of the case, and to refer it to the High Court, with a recommendation that the order of the Magistrate of the 10th of May, putting your petitioner on his defence, be set aside, as erroneous in law and unsupported by a particle of evidence.

10. Your petitioner considers this course necessary at the present stage of the case, because your petitioner has grounds for apprehending that he might be disgraced by being sent to prison, even if the conviction is eventually set aside by a superior Court.

11. Your petitioner further prays that, even if this Court does not feel justified in recommending to the High Court that the proceedings be altogether quashed, it will be pleased to refer the case to that Court, to enable it to transfer the case to some other officer, or to deal with it in any other way that Court thinks fit.

12. Other grounds for the support of this petition will be urged orally by your petitioner's Counsel.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

(Sd.) LALCHAND CHOWDRY.

The Judge after carefully going through the whole evidence, and considering a letter from the Magistrate in which he declared that the charges were established in his opinion, recorded the following judgment:—

Judgment.—An application has been considered on the part of Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry, at present under trial before the Magistrate under Sections 143 and 117, 553 and 117, 506 and 117. This Court has been moved, under Sections 295 and 296 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to call for the records of the case, and on the grounds of the orders of the Magistrate calling on the above defendant to enter on his defence being contrary to law, to forward the case to the High Court, with a view to the Magistrate's proceedings being quashed. The order of the Magistrate, it is contended, is contrary to law, inasmuch as there is no evidence whatever in support of even one of the charges: that the case for the prosecution having closed without any evidence being adduced in support of any of the charges on which defendant was arrested, it was unlawful for the Magistrate to formally call on the said defendant to answer to certain offences which had not been proved. The Magistrate was informed that the case would come on to-day and he was requested to appear by counsel; this, however, he has failed to do. I have gone myself carefully through the evidence, and do not find any evidence in support of the charges framed. I do not find that there was any unlawful assembly, nor do I find that Baboo Komola Kantha was assaulted; the mob appear to have shown their dissatisfaction by vague threats against Baboo Komola Kantha, but there is nothing to show that they were incited to do so by Baboo Lal Chand. The very utmost that can be said is that Baboo Lal Chand made use of some imprudent expressions in the excitement of discussion with the other Commissioners regarding certain byelaws. I have not had the advantage of having the evidence commented on by any one on the part of the Magistrate, who, I may note, is the prosecutor; but I have gone through it, and I must say I fail entirely to perceive how it can be made to bear any construction favorable to the case for the prosecution. A good deal of irrelevant matter has been introduced, but the facts are simple, and the evidence in support of them really not voluminous. The case is still *sub judice*, and no final orders have been passed; but I do not consider that I am, therefore, precluded from examining the record, and seeing that orders contrary to law are not passed. It appears to me obvious that framing charges which are entirely unsupported by evidence, and calling on a defendant to answer them, is unlawful. I am, therefore, bound to report the proceedings to the High Court. Before taking this step, however, it would be well to allow the Magistrate an opportunity of letting the case drop, for there is in this case no prosecutor, the Magistrate having taken up the case under the extraordinary powers vested in him by the law. Having instituted the case, the Magistrate, before whom it is, cannot now order a formal order of acquittal, and let the case drop, and though this Court cannot direct such a step to be taken, it can move the Head Executive Authority to pass such orders on the Magistrate as it may deem fit. Before reporting the case, then, to the High Court, it is ordered that a copy of this proceeding be sent to the commissioner, and that officer be requested to take steps to have the prosecution abandoned.

"E. F. LOWIS,
Sessions Judge."

15 May 1876.

Mr. Lewis, who is also the Commissioner, evidently anxious that Mr. Kirkwood should not be reported to the High Court, if that could be possibly avoided, wrote the following letter to Mr. Kirkwood:—

TO THE MAGISTRATE OF CHITTAGONG.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward copy of a proceeding of the Judge and to intimate that in my opinion the case against Babu Lal Chand should be allowed to drop. There is no question that the Sessions Judge has power to call for the records of a case in any stage of the proceedings, and to report on any order of the lower court that appears to be irregular or unlawful, even in interlocutory orders; as I know from experience the High Court claim the right of interference. In the present case, there is really no evidence in support of the charges framed and such being the case, you cannot put Babu Lal Chand on his defence. Had you allowed the defendant's counsel to address you before you framed the charges, he would no doubt have pointed out to you that there was really no case, the charges having been framed, the only course open to him was to apply to the Judge. Under the circumstances, then, to proceed with the case would be improper; in my opinion, the only course open is that suggested by the Judge, viz., to record a formal order of acquittal, to let the case drop. I may note that Kamola Kantha has made an affidavit before Mr. Towers that he has not put in fear that his evidence before you was perfectly voluntary, and that he told you all he could remember of the occurrence fully and freely. Mr. Fuller has also made an affidavit that will seriously affect the case if it is sent up to the High Court. I beg you will let me know at once what orders you pass in the case, the papers of which are herewith returned.—I have, &c.,

E. E. LEWIS,
Commissioner.

15th May, 1876.

Mr. Kirkwood after discussing the matter privately with Mr. Lewis wrote the following reply:—

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF CHITTAGONG.

SIR,—With reference to your No. 1420M., of the 15th instant, in connection with the case of Lal Chand Chowdry, I have the honor to suggest whether, having heard from you verbally that you did not mean that letter to convey an order to me to discontinue the case, I am at liberty to urge before the Judge the strong opinion I entertain as to the incorrectness of his procedure in the matter.

"2. If I am so at liberty, and your letter is not an order to discontinue proceeding, I would venture to suggest whether it would not facilitate a satisfactory settlement of the points under discussion, if your letter under reply were withdrawn, and the matter, which appears to be of an exclusively judicial nature, were left for discussion with the District Judge. I have, &c.,

16th May 1876.

T. M. KIRKWOOD.

The same afternoon Lalchand Chowdry and his Counsel were sent for by Mr. Kirkwood, who entered into a long discussion with Mr. Ghose as to the correctness of the Sessions Judge's order, and in the course of this conversation the following dialogue took place, which was immediately afterwards reduced into writing, and shown the next morning to Mr. Kirkwood who has made his own notes in the left hand column:—

On the afternoon of the 16th May, in the course of a long conversation between Mr. Kirkwood and Mr. Ghose, on the subject of my case, and the legality of the proceedings, which took place in my presence.

Mr. Ghose remarked—"Perhaps you issued the warrant on the strength of some private information or other which we did not come out in evidence."

To which Mr. Kirkwood replied—"Beyond what is disclosed in the evidence which I have already recorded, I had no sort of information (a) whatever when I issued the warrant. I did not act upon any sort of private information" (b.)

Mr. Ghose said—"If that is so, it is difficult to see."

Mr. Kirkwood—"You mean that in that case I was not at all justified in issuing the warrant?"

Mr. Ghose:—"If I may be permitted to say, I think so."

Mr. Kirkwood—I issued the warrant because I know (c) that zemindars of this place often fail to appear in obedience to a summons" (d.)

Mr. Ghose—"In that case Lal Chand would have made himself amenable to a criminal charge."

Mr. Kirkwood—"I doubt (e) whether he would have at all appeared. I thought if I would issue a summons instead of a warrant, he would probably get into a boat, and be off to Calcutta, and make all sorts of representations to the High Court."

Mr. Ghose—"He had a perfect right to do that"

Mr. Kirkwood:—"That would have delayed the proceedings very much and I wanted to take down the evidence while the matter was fresh"

LAL CHAND CHOWDRY.

Notes by Mr. Kirkwood.

* The information I had was of the same sort, but of a somewhat more hostile nature to the accused. The evidence as on record, is a diluted representation of what I possessed when issuing the warrant.—T. M. K.

(1). I do not think I said that I did not act on any sort of private information. What I did say, I believe, was, that I had now no further information beyond what was on the record. I do not remember stating what the evidence was, or from what source derived, on which I issued the warrant.—T. M. K.

Mr. Ghose acknowledges that he understood me to mean this.

(c). From experience.—T. M. K.

(b). And that where I had in some cases issued summonses it has been a most difficult matter to bring them before the Court.—T. M. K.

(e). I do not think this represents correctly what I said. My recollection of what I said is, "I thought over which I should issue, and I thought it possible that if a summons did issue he might avoid it and go off into the Mofussil (Mr. Ghose does not recollect the word Mofussil.—T. M. K.) or up to Calcutta, to petition the High Court, which conduct of course would have rendered comparatively worthless whatever evidence there was, the whole being a matter of recollection. I therefore felt it most desirable to record the evidence while it was still fresh, and as some of the offences, the commission of which was imputed by me to the defendant, were ones in which a warrant would ordinarily issue (Mr. Ghose does not recollect my saying this: It is quite possible I did not; I was speaking heedlessly, and Mr. Ghose was noting every word I said; but the above is to the best of my recollection.—T. M. K.) I thought the issue of a bail-condition warrant the most proper course I could pursue.—T. M. K.

NOTE.—The whole of this conversation, not being upon a point before the Court in any way, was of a private nature, and therefore opinions were expressed in language and with a want of consideration, which would, in the case of my being addressed on the subject as a Court, have been different. It was at the same sitting, but it was altogether without an object, and was interlarded with the other discussion but came up rather as a free expression of opinion on my part. Mr. Ghose showed me this to-day, and I have made my notes upon it. I do not thereby mean for a moment to admit that a loosely worded private conversation of this sort can be in any way used except so far that a conversation did occur, and the impression that the conversation left on the minds of the persons present at it, I have recorded the notes I have made, and so assented to a record of it being unofficially made, because I am aware that every movement I now make in this case, and every word I utter, is jealously watched, and easily perverted by the public of Chittagong.—(Sd.) T. M. KIRKWOOD.—The 17th May, 1876.

It will be seen from the above that one of the reasons which led Mr. Kirkwood to issue the warrant was to prevent Lalchand from petitioning the High Court. The same morning that is on the 17th Mr. Kirkwood wrote demiofficially to Mr. Ghose suggesting that if the order of the Sessions Judge were cancelled on Mr. Ghose's application he would himself hear Mr. Ghose's argument as to whether he was right in framing the charges. Mr. Ghose declined to consent to this course. It was afterwards agreed with the consent of Mr. Lewis that Mr. Kirkwood should simply hear Mr. Ghose's argument on this condition that if he adhered to his opinion the case would be sent to the High Court.

Accordingly Mr. Kirkwood after hearing Mr. Ghose, acquitted Lal Chand Chowdry on the ground that there was no evidence against him in support of those charges, which Mr. Kirkwood himself thought two days before had been clearly established. Assuming that this acquittal was perfectly honest and that a dread of the High Court had nothing to do with it, the question arises and it ought to be seriously considered by the Government, whether Mr. Kirkwood is under the circumstances disclosed in this case, fit to exercise the many extensive powers given to a Magistrate of the District by the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Finding that Babu Komolakanth Sen's evidence did not criminate Lal Chand in any way Mr. Kirkwood had made a note at the end of his deposition to the effect that he was an unwilling witness. Babu Komolakanth accordingly made the following affidavit before the Judge:—

In the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, Extraordinary Criminal Jurisdiction, Queen vs. Lal Chand Chowdry.

I Kamola Kantha Sen, Pleader of the High Court at present practising at Chittagong do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows.

1. That I was summoned on the 2nd May 1876, by Mr. Kirkwood Offg. Magistrate of Chittagong, to appear in his Court the next day, and give evidence on behalf of the prosecution in the case of the Queen vs. Lal Chand Chowdry.

2. That accordingly I gave my evidence in the said case on the 3rd and 4th days of May.

3. I declare that I was not reluctant or unwilling in the least to state any fact within my recollection or answer any question regarding matters on which I was examined and it is not true that I was unwilling to give my evidence in the case.

4. I further declare that while giving my evidence in the said case I was not in fear of any body or of any class of persons, and that I answered every question which was put to me to the best of my recollection unreservedly and without any fear or favor.

5. I further declare that I did not prefer any complaint or charge against Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry because as regards the occurrence of the 24th April last, which I have described in my evidence, I have no grounds whatever for suspecting that Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry ever intended to instigate the people to assault threaten or otherwise ill-treat me, though I complained to my friends of his indiscretion in addressing a large assembly of people on the occasion in question.

Sd. KAMOLA KANTHA SEN.

Solemnly affirmed before me this 15th day of May 1876, by Baboo Kamola Kantha Sen who is personally known to me.

Sd. R. TOWERS,
Addl. Judge.

Chittagong, 15th May, 1876.

Mr. Fuller a tea-planter has also made the following affidavit:—

In the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, Extraordinary Criminal Jurisdiction, Queen vs. Lal Chand Chowdry.

I Daniel Fuller, Tea Planter at present residing in the town of Chittagong do hereby make oath and declare as follows.

That I am a Municipal Commissioner for the town of Chittagong, and in that capacity was present at a meeting of the

Municipal Financial Sub-committee held on the 1st day of May 1876, in the office of the Municipal Commissioners of Chittagong.

2. That the said committee was composed of the following five Municipal Commissioners.

T. M. KIRKWOOD, C.S., President.

F. W. BADCOCK,

BABOO LAL CHAND CHOWDRY.

KAMOLA KANTHA SEN.

and myself having been appointed by the Municipal Commissioners of Chittagong at a general meeting held on the 24th April 1876.

3. That a circular was issued according to practice prior to the 1st of May 1876, requesting the attendance of the aforesaid Members of the Sub-committee at 2 P.M. of the 1st May.

4. That after the other Members had taken their seats and were about to commence business Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry arrived and was taking his seat when Mr. T. M. Kirkwood ordered Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry to leave the room saying "go out of the room," or words to this effect.

5. That thereupon Lal Chand Chowdry looked confused and remained silent when Mr. Kirkwood again said "leave the room" pointing to the door with his fingers whereupon Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry left the room in silence.

6. That after Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry left the room as aforesaid I protested against his being turned out saying you have insulted Lal Chand Baboo to which Mr. Kirkwood replied "I intended to do so" I then said you have no right to insult a Municipal Commissioner who has been appointed a Member of this Sub-committee by the General Committee, Mr. Kirkwood said "I have every right to turn him out as he was invited by me to attend this meeting" I denied that he was appointed by Mr. Kirkwood and asserted that he was appointed by the General Committee, whereupon Mr. Kirkwood called for the circular and having referred to it said "I will issue a warrant against him and have him arrested" if you insist on having him at the table I must leave it. "I replied if you leave the table we can do very well without you as we have Mr. Badcock the Vice Chairman whom we shall appoint as our president, whereupon Mr. Kirkwood remarked "if he comes here I will have him arrested" or words to this effect whereupon either Baboo Kamola Kantha Sen or myself said "you ought to hear him first and then proceed" thereupon Mr. Kirkwood sent his Chupprasse to call Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry back. The chupprasse returned and said he could not see the Baboo.

7. That prior to Lal Chand Chowdry being turned out as aforesaid by Mr. Kirkwood I had a conversation with Mr. Kirkwood as to what happened at the Municipal Office after the meeting of the Commissioners held on the 24th April 1876, but Mr. Kirkwood did not then express any intention on his part to issue a warrant against Lal Chand Chowdry or institute proceedings against him.

8. I further say I have known Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry as an active Member of the Chittagong Municipality from the establishment of the Municipality and have always found him express his opinion at the Meetings of the Municipality freely and unreservedly and honestly.

Sd. D. FULLER.

Sworn before me this 15th May Mr. Fuller who is personally known to me.

Sd. E. E. LEWIS,

Judge.

15 May 1876.

We congratulate Mr. Ghose on the able manner in which he conducted the case and on the successful issue of his labors. The defence we hear has cost Lal Chand about Rs. 5000. Who is to make good this loss to him?

THE MORAL OF THE CHITTAGONG CASE.

THE bare narrative which we give above points its own moral. It shews how insecure is the liberty of the subject in the Mofussil, how autocratic is the magistrate, how fallacious is the talk of municipal self-government for the people of this country, and how mischievous is the union of the functions of the chief Magistrate of the district and Municipal Chairman, and of the Judge and Commissioner of the Division in the same hands. From whatever point of view we look at this case, we cannot resist the conclusion that the spirit of the British Government as now and then exemplified in the acts and proceedings of its chief executive officers, officers who represent the Crown in the districts, who are the visible embodiment of the majesty of England before the masses, who locally carry far greater power than the Lieutenant Governor or the Governor General, is a gross mockery of its professions and promises. What does it matter what noble sentiments and declarations Her Gracious Majesty the Queen of England and Empress of India may proclaim to Her Indian subjects or to Her Indian servants for the promotion of their prosperity, happiness, and contentment? What does it matter what philanthropic ideas and generous views may find expression in words that burn in the two Houses of Parliament for the good government of India? What does it matter what words of wisdom are poured out by the Secretary of State from the India Office, or endorsed by the Governor General in India? What does it matter what condescension and conciliation are made by the Lieutenant Governor or other high officers of State? What does it matter what fine phrases are spun together in the

leading organs of the English press preaching a just and generous treatment of the people by the representatives of the ruling race whether holding office or not? What does it matter what Christian ministers and missionaries preach, or public speakers harangue about? We ask what does all this avail in the face of such *scandalum magnum* as we have described above? Is this the fruit of England's enlightened and benign rule of India for nearly a century and a quarter? Is this the practical result of its high moral precepts? Is this the fulfilment of its sacred mission in the East? We would not have laid so much stress upon this case if it were not a typical one. Let no Indian dog bark before me—is the motto more or less with the Indian civilian, be he Magistrate, Commissioner or Municipal Chairman. If the Indian be a fawning, cringing sycophant, the civilian takes a delight in fondling him like a lap-dog, and goes to any length to serve him—he is then literally his *ma bap*, but let him shew spirit and independence, and he is sure to be snubbed. Of course there are honorable exceptions, but exceptions prove the rule. The Indian civilian has doubtless many good qualities, but his besetting fault is that he cannot bear contradiction, particularly from a native. It is nonsense to say that in the eye of the law the European and the Native are equal—a grosser fiction than that there never has been. Is it reasonable to expect that the civilian, who lords over the country, should regard the native as a being of the same flesh and blood with him, endowed with the same sensations and feelings, and entitled to the same rights and considerations? He instantly argues that if such had been the case he would not have come here to govern him. It is his part to command, and it is the Indian's lot to obey, and woe be to the man, who does not do so! Of course most of the Indians understand their lot, and are meek and submissive to their lord. It is only when some unfortunate man like Lalchand has the impudence and temerity to assert his independence, he learns the lesson which the Chittagong zemindar and merchant has lately learnt so well. We do not write in anger when we say this. We appeal to both Civilians and Indians to calmly reflect on the relative position they occupy in this country and their every-day relations with each other, and say whether it is in the nature of a civilian to bear opposition or contradiction, and whether an Indian can ordinarily have the courage to give his honest opinion, when such opinion is likely to give mortal offence to the huzoor. There is such a transparent inequality between the two that to talk of equality between them is not only absurd but provoking. This has been the case from the beginning of British rule, and the feeling has been growing with the growth of time. Mr. Kirkwood is not singular. The other day Dr. Monier Williams wrote to the *Times* that "the Collector of a large district had assured him that as Chairman of a Municipal Board in a large town, he could make native members vote in any way he chose to direct." And this is quite true. Of course Mr. Kirkwood has been more outrageous than others. But he is not to blame. Does he not know that the cloak of C. S. covers a multitude of sins? Does the reader remember the vagaries which he committed in Orissa as Joint-Magistrate and Superintendent of Canals, and how did he fare? He got a reproof now and then, but is he not flourishing as a full-fledged Magistrate? His covenant is his immunity from the pains and penalties of office. What does the reader think will be the sequence of the Chittagong case? Perhaps a letter of reproof; but he may rest assured that two years hence or so he will be made a pucca Magistrate, as he is now an officiating one. How many instances are not there of Civilians, who have been roundly condemned for gross misconduct or grave irregularities, and yet who within a few years of their censure have been promoted to high offices and also honored with special marks of distinction. Take the latest case of Sir Douglas Forsyth. Here was a Civilian, who was declared by the Government of India in 1872 as unfit to hold the office of Commissioner, but in 1873 he was commissioned to Yarkand and in 1874 he was appointed a member of the Governor's Legislative Council, and in 1875 sent on an important mission to Burma, and dubbed a

K. C. S. I.! What was the fate of the uncovenanted officer who had acted under his orders in the Kuka business—he was dismissed! Scores of similar instances may be adduced, and when such is the case, is it a wonder that there should be civilian magistrates, who consider any opposition to their will or *hookum* on the part of a native as the gravest treason, and no punishment too severe for such daring and glaring audacity? If for instance Mr. Kirkwood had received his dues for his vagaries in Orissa, we are sure he would not have repeated them at Chittagong, but his covenant and color are his Magna Charta, and fortified with them he can well afford to defy the whole herd of "rascally natives." Look to what his immediate superior did. The Commissioner is also the Sessions Judge of Chittagong, and if he had liked he could have brought him to his bearings in his either capacity. But instead of doing so he supported him in the passing of the obnoxious bye-law, and it is rumoured that he not only countenanced him in his first report to Government, but was in daily if not hourly communication with him and secretly helped him. The people, if our correspondent is to be believed, were literally terror-struck. They felt that the two officers were tied with the same sacred thread, that there was a sort of sacerdotal feeling between them, that there was little prospect of redress when there was no independent authority in the district to appeal to, the chief district authority being himself both Judge and Commissioner. In this dual capacity he has saved his brother officer from being hauled up before the High Court, but the interests of justice have suffered. Would the Commissioner-Judge have however ventured to condone the faults of his subordinate and to help him in the way he did if a native had not been involved in the case? The crime of color apparently justified all the vagaries and excesses of the Magistrate.

The native public look forward with eagerness to the action which Sir Richard Temple may take in this matter. It remains to be seen whether he will follow the traditions of the service and let off Mr. Kirkwood with "a sharp reprimand," or give him a more substantial recognition of his sense of justice. We would only ask him to consider what would he have wished the Government to do if he himself had been sat upon like poor Lalchand. He is himself a landholder and knows well what *ijjut* such a person has in his own district and among his own people—and knowing this what would he have thought of the Magistrate, who would have dared to appoint him by way of punishment for his independence at a municipal meeting as a special constable "to guard privies day and night," to turn him out of the municipal meeting to which he had been formally invited, to charge him with all manner of offences, not one of which had the slightest substratum in fact, to arrest him on such trumped-up charges, to try him before himself, thus uniting the functions of prosecutor, witness, and judge in the same person, and then when pressed dismissed all the charges and entered a verdict of acquittal! Let Sir Richard Temple ponder over all these features of the case, and then interrogate himself what would have been his own feeling in the matter, if all this had occurred to himself? That is the only criterion by which cases of this kind ought to be regarded by the governors of the country. Perhaps Lord Lytton has kept his eyes open to this case, and we dare say his Lordship will also take due notice of it.

But we hope neither the Lieutenant Governor nor the Governor General will rest satisfied with merely taking notice of the personal conduct of Mr. Kirkwood. They should go into the more important principles involved in it. They should consider whether that system can be conducive to the best interests of the people, which permits the Magistrate to act the part of a prosecutor, witness and judge? Is it not subversive of the primary ends of justice? Can a judge, who is himself the prosecutor and witness, bring an impartial mind to bear upon the trial of a case instituted by himself. Then again is it fitting that the same officer should be the executive and judicial head of the district? The executive is apt to push vigour beyond the law, but the judiciary is usually calm and collected.

But when the same person unites the two-fold functions, do they not necessarily clash? Is it just to say the least to the officer himself to place him in such an incongruous position? And lastly, the Government seems to be in earnest in giving the people a share in the administration of the country by inviting them to join municipal and other local committees. Now, so long as the Magistrate of the district continues to be the Chairman of the Committees, can there be any independence in the native members after the sweet experience gained by Lalchand, and if there be no independence, of what use is it to put them on such Committees? Surely the Government does not want a few waxen dolls to receive any impressions, which the Magistrate may be pleased to stamp them with? Far better that the people should be governed despotically than that they should be deceived by appearances. No nation can be raised in the scale of civilization by simulation. It is doubly demoralizing; it demoralizes the people as well as the Government—the people because they dare not assert their independence or express their honest opinions, and demoralizes the Government because it bolsters up a system founded on insincerity and dishonesty—if it really wanted the people to act independently and honestly, it would not certainly keep them perpetually in the leading strings of the Magistrate. If the people are not advanced enough to act independently, why not openly and straightforwardly tell them so? The present policy tends only to make the honest and independent unhappy, and the cowards more cowardly. The honest and independent men cannot freely give expression to their own views and opinions, and consequently foam and fret within themselves, and would, indeed, be too glad if they could be relieved of their disagreeable position, while the timid cower still more in the awful presence of official authority. We repeat it would be much better if the District Magistrate were declared the autocrat of the district by law as he is in fact. Then the people would know what's what. They were contented under the East India Company, because there was not the deception of self-government clothed in a veil of seeming liberality. The Company's civilians were not the less autocratic and despotic than the Queen's civilians—perhaps they were more so—but they were honest—they acted as they thought, they did not make a promise and break it to the ear, they did not simulate to save appearance. Unfortunately such sincerity is rare in these degenerate days!

ZEMINDARS AND RYOTS.

MR. GLAZIER'S "Further notes on the Rungpore Records," contain an interesting chapter under the above head. As the facts given in this chapter are likely to throw some light on the great rent question of the day we have much pleasure in drawing attention to them. The increase in the rental of the zemindars in Rungpore is greatly due to the extension and improvement of cultivation. Mr. Glazier takes Kakinea "as a fair sample of an estate of old Rungpore," and that estate shows a three-fold increase in assets over the collections assumed to have been made at the time of the permanent settlement. "This proportion," says Mr. Glazier, "is the same as the increase in population during that period, and would indicate that the increased rental has only kept pace with the increased cultivation, without any great addition to the rate of rent." But this is not the case with the other larger estates in Rungpore, such as Baharband, Patiladaha, and others. In Rungpore, says Mr. Glazier, an inquiry into the amount of increase in the rate of rent paid by the ryots to the zemindars since the permanent settlement is complicated by many considerations. We hear so much of the *pergunnah* rate in other districts, but, says Mr. Glazier, "there was no *pergunnah* rate to begin with; no estate, no village even had a fixed rate, but each holding had its special rent made up from a variety of circumstances peculiar to itself. In *pergunnah* Soroopore a thorough sifting of the conditions of settlement was made by a Commission which held its inquiry in 1790. The variations in rents of neighbouring estates were very great: thus while the assessment made by the Commissioner

amounted to 11 annas 10 pie on the large Soropore beegha, the prevailing rates for neighbouring estates were given at Re. 1-8 to 1-12, and for the contiguous Dinagepore estates Rs. 2 to 3 per beegha. Further, the rents entered in the zemindary accounts did not at all correctly represent the actual payments by the ryots. On the one hand the zemindar collected a host of illegal cesses in addition to the rent, on the other the ryot held much more land than he paid rent for." Regarding the cesses, Mr. Glazier remarks, "in Soropore, the year before the Commission sat, the cesses added 2 annas or one-eighth part to the rental. In one point of view these exactions may be looked on as an irregular increase of rent to balance the increased cultivation of the ryots—a rough and ready adjustment in which both parties coincided rather than have recourse to the troublesome process of a fresh assessment every few years. But arbitrary in their character and uncertain in their incidence as these imposts were, they were necessarily oppressive and apt to grow with use; and not their least objectionable feature was the opening they afforded to the responsible agents of the zemindars to make collections on their own account, of which they were not slow to avail themselves." Again: "It was, as above stated, the fact of the ryot holding more land than was entered in the zemindary papers that was the stronghold for these cesses. Thus in Mr. Grose's settlement of 1771 we find an entry of a quarter of a lakh as paid by the ryots in order that the measurement of their holdings should be suspended; in Soropore three villages were measured as the sample of the rest, and the ryots' cultivation turned out to be double that entered in the papers of a preceding measurement, which an ameen had carried out according to the wishes of the ryots, and the Commission found a result for the whole estate of over 60 per cent. increase. To give an instance from present times. During the late statistical inquiries, in one village it was found that the acreage was 890 where the zemindar's papers gave only 250 acres. This is probably an exceptional case. On the whole there is much more land held under strict measurement than used to be the case; but still the greater part of the land is held by traditional measurement, and an increase of rent is acceded to by an addition of so many annas in the rupee on the total rent of the holding, and not on a fresh adjustment according to the quantity and quality of land held." As regards the rate of rent Mr. Glazier says, "some papers professing to give pergunnah rates of rent were filed in the Collectorate soon after the permanent settlement, and Mr. Crawford has collated them into a table, which is to be found in Appendix C. The results are a vast medley of rates, but I take *awal* or first class paddy land as a sample of the rest. Here the rates range from 8 annas to Rs. 2-4 a beegha; but putting out of account some of the outlying tracts where the lowest rates are found, the average rate is about Re. 1-12 the beegha. In the late statistical inquiry the rates found for this quality of land are entered as Rs. 2 and 2-8; and if we take the average, Rs. 2-4, this will give an increase of one-third on the previous average of Re. 1-12, which may perhaps represent the increase in the rate of rent that has taken place, taking the district as a whole, though the result would vary much for each estate." But this we submit is not the correct way of putting the case. Accepting the figures as given by Mr. Glazier we ought to consider the ratio which Re. 1-12 bore to the value of the gross produce per biga in the days of the Permanent Settlement, and the ratio which Rs. 2-4 bear to the present value of the gross produce. If the ratio represented in the first epoch one-third of the value of the gross produce, the question is whether the present rent bears the same ratio to the present value of the gross value. The rate or share of the produce to which the zemindar is entitled being the same, the amount of the rent may be easily fixed. We wish Mr. Glazier had instituted the comparison on this basis. Mr. Glazier however remarks: "If on the one hand the ryots have to pay much more exactly on the land they actually occupy, on the other there are fewer cesses levied than formerly. Act X. has not been worked so as to result in any general increase of rent, and there can be no doubt that in this district the ryots

have in a much larger degree than the zemindars participated in the profits arising from the increased value of produce and the impetus given to the cultivation of the more valuable products, notably jute." He continues: "The ryots' position also in respect of security of tenure, though leaving much to be desired, is better than elsewhere. Returns give 25 per cent. only of the ryots as possessing a right of occupancy; but these returns have been presented by the zemindars, and the number is probably much larger. A large number of sales of jotes or ryots' holdings are annually registered, and I have made inquiries of the sellers in a number of cases respecting the time they have held the land, and in almost every instance the answer has been from two to three generations, or for 20 or more years. In a few cases only did any seller say he had held the land for 12 years or a shorter period. The right of occupancy is a legal term dating from 1859, and is not generally recognized. The sales of jotes by private deed or decree of court which constantly take place are made without any reference to, or mention of, the time of occupancy of the previous holder. The Rungpore jotes vary from a rental of from Rs. 2 to Rs. 20,000 or more. The smaller jotedars are ryots proper, the larger ones are middlemen, and all jotes, large or small, are saleable and heritable." The whole confusion has however been made by the introduction of the terms "occupancy right." In the hands of a clever zemindar this right has no significance whatever; he can easily frustrate the intentions of the Legislature; but it has been a source of perpetual feud between the landlord and tenant. The fact is the Legislature by deviating from the old plan of settlement has created the present confusion and misunderstanding. That plan was based upon the reasonable, intelligible and equitable principle of dividing upon a rough estimate the gross produce of the land between the zemindar and the ryot. It varied from one-half to one-third, and as the payment was then made both in kind and money, there was not much room for dispute. If the Legislature had followed that plan, there would not have been that disquieting of the popular mind, which has unfortunately followed Act X. of 1859. In the appendix to Mr. Glazier's "Notes" is a valuable paper of Mr. T. Sisson, Judge and Magistrate of Rungpore, dated the 2nd April 1875, in which that able officer discusses in an exhaustive manner the principles on which the rate of rent ought to be fixed. He was a zealous friend of the ryots, and after describing the exactions and oppressions which they were subjected to, he wrote as follows:

"It is far easier to describe than to remedy these evils. The only effectual mode of attaining this important end in Rungpore will be, in the first place, to ascertain by a local investigation, to be superintended by a covenanted servant of ability and experience, the several varieties of rate and pottah throughout the district, and the proportion which the illegal cess is made in the several estates to bear to the recorded rental; *secondly*, to ascertain by actual measurement the extent of cultivation in each pergunnah; *thirdly*, to reduce the qualities of land in each pergunnah to a certain number of classes, which may be readily distinguishable one from the other; *fourthly*, to ascertain the average gross produce of each class; and *fifthly*, to determine, reference being had to the present and former rates of rent, what proportion of the average produce shall in each class be retained by the ryot, and what proportion at a fixed money valuation shall be received by the zemindar.

This is the principle on which the admirable settlement of Dinagepore was established by Mr. Hatch. That gentleman made but six distinctions in the quality of land throughout the district. These were (1) *pullee*, first sort; (2) *pullee*, second sort; (3) *kheear*, first sort; (4) *kheear*, second sort; (5) *dhon* or lands liable to inundation; and (6) lands waste previously to 1196 (B.S.). The rate of each of these sorts varied in different pergunnahs, the waste lands being in every case liable after the third year to the full *pullee* or *kheear* rate according to their quality. In consequence of this methodical arrangement attempts were made by the landlords to enhance the rent of the land of an inferior to the rate of a higher quality, and differences as to the actual extent of a ryot's tillage as to this day the only sources of dispute between landlord and tenant in that part of Dinagepore which was settled by Mr. Hatch. The pergunnah rate can never be disputed when the quality is once ascertained; and the several qualities, from their being defined by the broadest principles of distinction, such as the capability of the land to bear one or more crops, are readily determinable on judicial investigation.

The extent of each cultivator's tillage, and the several qualities of his land, should be noted down as the survey proceeded, and each cultivator should be held entitled to receive a fixed pottah in perpetuity for the full extent of his lands at the established rates. The pottahs of every village should be numbered, and the particulars of each pottah be recorded in a numerical register to be kept by the canoongoe of the pergunnah. The land measure should be reduced to one standard throughout the district, and to avoid fraud in the

measurement of land, an iron chain, or one made of short bamboo linked together with iron rings, should be adopted for general use instead of rope, which is apt to stretch or shrink according to the season of the year, or of a rod, in the use of which there are various opportunities of fraudulent measurement. The rate of standard should be promulgated for general information, and a counterpart of the established cubit made of bamboo should be furnished to each landholder, which should bear an impression of the court seal at both ends as a mark of its being of the proper standard. The different rates of land should be defined by such distinguishing circumstances as might be readily ascertainable, and the performance of this important duty should be vested exclusively in the Superintendent, who might be directed to adopt the plan pursued by Mr. Hatch as his model. The measurement should in the first instance be made by ameen to be appointed by the Superintendent, and it should be the duty of the village patwari and mandul to report to the canoongoe all subsequent alterations as they might occur. A table of the rates established in each pergunnah should be hung up in a conspicuous part of the moonsif's cutcherry and in that of the thanadar of the jurisdiction, and they should be regularly recorded both in the Judge's and in the Collector's Office. The canoongoe should be required to furnish the Collector with an attested copy of his register when completed, and to transmit to that officer at the close of every year a list of the mutations that may have taken place during that period."

In a foot-note he adds:

"To provide against any future sensible reduction in the price of silver, a reservation might be made that the present valuation of the crop should be liable, at the discretion of Government, to revision at the expiration of every tenth or twentieth year, and in order to introduce this reservation so as to avoid giving the ryot suspicion that his lease conferred not a right of perpetual occupancy, the rate of rent ought to be specified in kind in some such manner as this:— "At the yearly rent of two maunds of rice, valued at one sicca rupee." The terms of the reservation should also be expressly mentioned in the pottah, and should be accompanied with the proviso that under no circumstances it should be competent to Government or to the proprietor to raise the rate of the rent beyond the current value of two maunds of rice per beegha. Rice would appear to be the nearest measure of value in the province of Bengal; it should therefore be established as the measure of rent, even of land which might produce other crops. There can be no disputing the fact that in many parts of the country considerable improvements have been introduced by the proprietors by cutting watercourses and raising embankments; and where, as seldom happens, this may have been done at his own expense, the zemindar ought in justice to enjoy an enhanced rent. But improvements of this kind are unknown in Rungpore, and where they may be made the zemindar might be rewarded by the enhancement of the rent of his land to the rate of the quality to which he may have improved it, a second reservation being inserted in the pottah to the effect that "provided by cutting water-courses or raising embankments the zemindar's exertions raise the capability of the land to that of a higher quality, it shall be competent to the Government to direct a survey of the improvements, and to award payment of the rent of the quality to which the lands may have been improved." But care must be taken that the reward is not thus bestowed where it is not deserved.

It would be observed that Mr. Sisson wanted to make a distinction between the rate of rent to which the zemindars should be ordinarily entitled, and the right of enhancement. The rate should be a share of the produce, and the money value of the same should of course be periodically adjusted. This adjustment did not imply enhancement. The zemindar shall get "two maunds of rice" per biga equal to one-third the gross produce, valued at one sicca rupee, but the value would vary, and it should therefore be adjusted periodically. The rate or share should however remain the same, and this he would call the pergunnah rate, and this rate he recommended irrespective of the period of tenancy of the ryot. There was no occupancy ryot before, and all ryots were equally liable to the same rate of rent. Mr. Sisson would however confer on the zemindar the right to enhancement of rent where he might by his own capital, industry and skill, improve the quality of the soil or benefit cultivation, or introduce a new staple or find an easier market for the produce, and thus raise its value. In such a case he would allow the zemindar to add to the rate of rent current in the pergunnah, for this would be strictly speaking an enhancement of rent. It was a pity that the principles which the early rulers of the country had enunciated have not been steadily kept in view. If the Legislature of 1859 had for instance followed the principles, which have been so lucidly and correctly set forth in Mr. Sisson's paper, how much trouble, expense and litigation would have been saved!

THE FAUNA OF BURMA.

A notion prevails that science is a jealous goddess who insists upon entire and exclusive devotion from her worshippers. The lives of ancient sages, of mediæval monks, and of German professors of the present day, have in a great measure strengthened this idea. It is, nevertheless, a mistaken one, and the history of scientific researches in India during the last hundred years offers the

strongest protest against it. The men who have taken the lead in such researches were, with rare exceptions, amateurs who had come out in quest of fortune, and had to devote the best part of their lives to onerous official duties, totally unconnected with literature and science, and yet the service they have rendered to the cause of science is immense. This is, however, not, after all, a matter for wonder. Our foremost workers have been the members of the Civil, the Military, and the Medical services, who have been, generally speaking, men of high education, imbued with a taste for learning, who could not but betake to the highways and byeways of science for recreation, whenever opportunities offered themselves for it; and in a field so vast and so absolutely untrodden before as India, every thing they looked at proved novel and attractive. Even now a couple of hours' ramble here for snipes, is calculated to bring to light more facts in zoology and botany than what a professed naturalist in Europe can gather in six months. And what is true of zoology and botany is equally so of many other branches of knowledge. The position occupied in this country by the members of the different services is also highly favorable to the cultivation of their taste for science. As heads of departments they have at their disposal resources which few else can command, and the exigencies of their official duties often require them to take note of things which, in Europe, are left to professional workers. Again, those who are not naturally disposed to devote themselves to scientific pursuits and record their observations for official reports or for their own recreation, have friends in India and Europe whom they wish to oblige, and for whose sake they have often to undertake enquiries which lead to valuable results. How the opportunities so presented have been hitherto turned to account is best illustrated by reference to the Transactions and Journals of the different learned Societies of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay. The Bengal Asiatic Society alone has published nearly a hundred volumes teeming with information of the most varied and interesting character, which no student of science can do without; and the materials for them have been collected, all but exclusively, by the members of the three services, who have been its principal supporters, and without whom it could not have existed for a month. All these men have laboured in the cause of science in other than official hours. The last contribution of the Society is a portly volume on the Fauna of Burma. It appears that Sir A. P. Playe, for some time Chief Commissioner of British Burma, had requested the late Mr. Blyth "to undertake a sketch of the natural history of Burma, which should form a chapter in a work on that country then under preparation." Blyth, however, entered more fully into the subject than the author had contemplated, and the result was a catalogue more fitted for an independent work than to serve as a chapter in a popular description. It was accordingly made over, after Blyth's death, to the Asiatic Society for publication in its Journal. The task of editing was undertaken by Mr. Arthur Grote, whose zeal for the interests of the Society seems unabated even after a service of well nigh forty years. We know of none who, after retirement from India, has evinced such interest for the Society and for matters Indian generally, as he does. Besides, a high order of scholarship coupled with a life-long devotion to the study of natural history, and perfect familiarity with the history, literature, manners, customs, and physical peculiarities of this country, had qualified him to do full justice to the scientific labours of the author, and he has executed the task in a manner which reflects the highest credit on him. He has had, moreover, the co-operation of Dr. Anderson of the Indian Museum, and of Dr. Dobson of the Royal Victoria Hospital of Netley, in revising the lists of mammals, and of Lord Walden, President of the Zoological Society, in correcting the catalogue of Birds; and so the work may be accepted as thoroughly correct, and brought fully up to date. It shows that, according to the most recent information, there are, in the Burman Peninsula, 129 mammals and 660 Birds; and the names of all these, their leading synonyms, short descriptive notices, and ample bibliographical references

have been supplied in the work. Of the mammals 11 are monkeys of various kinds, 29, bats, and 37, rodents including rats, mice, porcupines, hares, and rabbits. The most remarkable mammal of the Burman peninsula is the Tapir, which extends from the north of the Tenasserim Provinces to Lower Siam, Sumatra and Borneo. The other mammals are mostly representatives of genera well known in India and other parts of the world. The same remark applies to the birds, and on the whole it would seem that, notwithstanding certain marked peculiarities, Upper Burma generally pertains the character of Eastern India in its Fauna.

By way of introduction to the work the editor has given a memoir of the author, and a resume of his scientific labours written in a kindly spirit, but on the whole, exhibiting perfect fairness and discrimination. Blyth came out to India early in life, but not without having distinguished himself as an able and conscientious naturalist, as one of the editors of an illustrated translation of Cuvier, which was published by Ore & Co. in 1840, and a frequent contributor to the "Field Naturalist." In this country his labours spread over a period of twenty-one years, from 1842 to 1862, and during the time he wrote for the Journal of the Asiatic Society a large number of Essays, which greatly extended our knowledge of Indian zoology, and established his reputation as a high authority on the subject. The total number of essays, papers, monographs and reports published by him, appears to be over one hundred and forty, and the leading naturalists of Europe, such as Darwin, Strickland, Owen, and others freely and approvingly quote from them. To him is due the credit of making the Society's Museum, which, before he joined it, did not contain enough of specimens to fill two moderate-sized cases, but which at the time of his retirement comprised the richest collection in India, and for Indian specimens was reckoned to be fully on a par with the India House Museum. He was also instrumental in extending the intercourse of the Society with the learned institutions of Europe, America and Australia. Adverting to his services Mr. Hume, in his "Scrap Book," and "Stray Feathers" indulges in some remarks which, while doing justice to the memory of Blyth, reflect very unfairly against the authorities of the Asiatic Society. In one place he says "for some twenty years his (Blyth's) talents shed a lustre on the Asiatic Society, which its then members did but little to merit." This refers to the small pay which the Society allowed him; but as the pay came from Government, and not from the Society, and the Society's resources were so limited as not to admit of any supplementary grant from them, Mr. Grote does well in vindicating the character of his late colleagues in the Council of that learned body. The charge is as offensive as it is unjust. We can from personal knowledge boldly assert that the Society did its best to promote the interests of their late Curator, and had it not been for the earnest and unremitting exertions of its members, Blyth would not have got the small pension which helped him so materially in the last days of his life.

HUMAN SACRIFICES.

Dr. Rajendralala Mitra has contributed to the Journal of the Asiatic Society a remarkable paper "on Human Sacrifices in Ancient India." Although the paper professedly relates to India, it treats of the subject of human sacrifices in the ancient world at large. It is certainly an unaccountable weakness in man to suppose that God would be pleased if one were to put himself into privations and penances, but this belief has been predominant in the human breast from the dawn of human intelligence, and has still a hold upon men of the highest culture and thought. To follow the paper before us, the Phœnicians frequently offered human victims to their sanguinary gods Ba'al and Moloch to appease their thirst for blood. The Carthaginians did the same to the same divinities. The Druids, both in Great Britain and Scandinavia, likewise, satisfied the spirit of their gods by human sacrifices, often burning large numbers of men in wicker baskets. The Scythians testified their devotion by

immolating hundreds at a time. In the Thargalia of the Athenians, a man and a woman were annually sacrificed to expiate the sins of the nation. Homer mentions that twelve Trojan captives were killed at the funeral of Patroclus, and Menelaus was seized by the Egyptians for sacrificing young children with the Greek notion of appeasing the winds. As an act of vindictive devotion, Augustus immolated three hundred citizens of Perusia before his deified uncle Devus Julius. The cruel practice of the Cyclops feasting on their prisoners-of-war is well known. According to Euripides, "the most agreeable repast to the Cyclops was the flesh of strangers," and Homer describes that six of the comrades of Ulysses were devoured by Scylla in the cavern of the Cyclops. It is generally believed that the Syrens were no other than priestesses of anthropothusiac temples on the coast of Campania, and they derived their infamous notoriety, most probably, from the part they took in the immolation of shipwrecked mariners; "for Campania at one time was as dreaded as Rhegium and Sicily, for the dangers which awaited those who navigated their coasts." The priestesses were invariably selected with special reference to their personal charms, and the most important part in the service of the temples was singing of hymns in which the Syrens were so far perfect, that they were formerly believed to have been the daughters of Terpsichore according to some, and of Melpomene or Calliope according to others. Referring to the inhabitants of Cyprus, Herodotus says: "The people of this place worship the virgin goddess Artemis; at whose shrine they sacrifice all persons who have the misfortune to be shipwrecked upon their coasts: and all the Grecians that they can lay hold of, when they are at any time thither driven. All these they, without any ceremony, brain with a club though others say that they shove them off headlong from a precipice, for temple is founded upon a cliff." This Artemis was the counterpart of the Indian Kali, to whom human sacrifices were offered until very recently. The Assyrians, like the people on the shores of the Mediterranean freely indulged in human sacrifices and imagined that sacrifices were the most acceptable offerings they could make to their gods. According to Diodorus "red-haired men were formerly sacrificed by the Egyptian kings at the altar of Osiris," and Plutarch quotes a passage from Manitho to show that "formerly in the city of Idithya, they were wont to burn even men alive, giving them the name of Typhons, and winnowing their ashes through a sieve to scatter and disperse them in the air; which human sacrifices were performed in public, at a stated season of the year during 873."

The ancient Jews were in many respects better than their neighbours, but the idea of human sacrifice seems not to have been unknown to them. When Abraham was commanded to offer up his son, he did not even evince any repugnance or surprise, and the vow of Jephtha, which was literally carried out by the sacrifice of his daughter, affords a positive proof on the subject. The offering of children to Moloch, which the Jews evidently borrowed from their neighbours, is also remarkable as bearing strongly on the question at issue. Of all the different races of America, the Aztecs were the most civilized. Their social institutions, their palaces, their elective form of government, were such as to claim for them a very high position as a nation, and yet their addiction to human sacrifice was such as would disgrace the lowest savages. At their coronations, "the new monarch," says Prescott, "was installed in his regal dignity with much parade of religious ceremony; but not until, by a victorious campaign, he had obtained a sufficient number of captives to grace his triumphal entry into the capital, and to furnish victims for the dark and bloody rites which stained the Aztec superstition." In south America, the Peruvians were strongly addicted to human sacrifices, and the Araucanians, though they are said to have been "sensible to the dictates of compassion," and a mild, sensible race averse to cruelty, were nevertheless sometimes given to the same practice. They celebrated a rite called *pruloucon*, or "the Dance of the Dead," at which a prisoner-of-war was "sacrificed to the manes of the soldiers killed in the war." Dr. Rajendralala Mitra says that the Persians were, perhaps, the only

nation of ancient times who did not indulge in human sacrifice. As constituting the agricultural section of the great Aryan race, they contented themselves by offering the fruits of the field for the gratification of their divinity. Regarding the Hindus the learned Doctor remarks, "as a Hindu writing on the actions of my ancestors—remote though they are,—it would have been a source of great satisfaction to me if I could adopt this conclusion as true; but I regret I cannot do so consistently with my allegiance to the cause of history. Doubtless the institutions of the Vedic Hindus were of a benign and humane character, and that they did not tolerate brutality to the extent that other ancient nations indulged in. I can well believe; but it must be added also that benign and humane as was the ancient spirit of the Hindu religion, it was not at all opposed to animal sacrifice; on the contrary, most of the principal rites required the immolation of large numbers of various kinds of beasts and birds. One of the rites enjoined required the performer to walk deliberately into the depth of the ocean, and drown himself to death. This was called *Mahaprasanna*, and is forbidden in the present age. Another, an expiatory one, required the sinner to burn himself to death, on a blazing pyre—the *Tushanala*. This has not yet been forbidden; and it is what Calanus performed in the presence of Alexander the Great. The gentlest of beings, the simple-minded women of Bengal, were for a long time in the habit of consigning their first-born babes to the sacred river Ganges at Sagar Island, and this was preceded by a religious ceremony, though it was not authorized by any of the ancient rituals. For centuries men have courted death under the wheels of Jagannatha's car, under the delusion of that being the most meritorious act of devotion which they could perform, and with the fond assurance that they would thereby secure for themselves the highest reward in a future life. And if the spirit of the Hindu religion has tolerated, countenanced, or promoted such acts, it would not be by any means unreasonable or inconsistent to suppose that it should have, in primitive times, recognised the slaughter of human beings as calculated to appease, gratify, and secure the grace of the gods." The author makes a touching allusion to the offering of blood by Hindu women. He says: "There is scarcely a respectable house in all Bengal, the mistress of which has not, at one time or other, shed her blood, under the notion of satisfying the goddess by the operation. Whenever her husband or a son is dangerously ill, a vow is made that on the recovery of the patient, the goddess would be regaled with human blood, and on the first Durga Puja following, or at the temple at Kalighat, or at some other sacred fane, the lady performs certain ceremonies, and then bares her breast in the presence of the goddess, and with a nail-cutter (*naruna*) draws a few drops of blood from between her breasts, and offers them to the divinity. The last time I saw the ceremony was six years ago, when my late revered parent, tottering with age, made the offering for my recovery from a dangerous and long-protracted attack of pleurisy. Whatever may be thought of it by persons brought up under a creed different from that of the Indo-Aryans, I cannot recall to memory the fact without feeling the deepest emotion for the boundless affection which prompted it." The sacrifice of human life has ceased, but animal sacrifice is still practised by the Hindus, and privations and penances are undergone by the followers of almost all the religions of the world. This is a weakness of the human mind, which neither education nor religious development has entirely conquered.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

THE following letter, which has been addressed to the Colonial Secretary by Mr. Rajarathnum, a native of Madras engaged in business in Mauritius, and which we have received for publication, tells a sad tale:

My Lord,—I am a Native of Madras and came to Mauritius in 1867 for the purposes of business. Since my arrival I have taken a leading part in all matters which concern the interests of Indians in this Colony, and am in a position to guarantee the authenticity of the information I now furnish to Your Lordship with respect to the treatment of Indians in the neighbouring Island of Reunion.

Many of Her Majesty's Indian subjects in this Island of Reunion are subjected to systematic cruelty and oppression.

The intervention of the British Consul in this Island, who is the sole Protector of the Indian Immigrants there, is very

often of slight avail in their behalf. To whatever extent the Consul may push his inquiries into the cases of these distressed Indians, I may say that in the majority of such cases, these inquiries are unattended by any profitable result, and although the recalcitrant attitude of the Consul justifies the belief that nothing will be neglected on his part to correct abuses suffered by these oppressed men and women and to have their various griefs and complaints redressed, and these he energetically denounces, yet, in repeated instances the intrigues and unworthy conduct of either the Syndic the Chief Immigration Officer or his Deputy succeed in a great measure in having attention to them refused.

The unfortunate immigrants are generally received with great contempt by the Government Officials who pass themselves off as their protectors.

The attitude and behaviour of these officers towards the immigrants who seek for justice are such that there can be no hesitation in saying that they do not scruple to connive at the shameful cruelty practised by many estate proprietors with impunity, notwithstanding the presence of Her Majesty's Consul at Saint Denis, the Capital of the Island. The want of candour, fairness, and humanity in these Immigration officials must necessarily militate strongly against their doing justice to Indians who go before them. One principal reason for this must be attributed to their being wretchedly paid, which of course denudes them in the eyes of planters, and which leads to their forming a close friendship with the latter. The Government of Reunion has moreover chosen a man of indifferent character to be the Sous Commissaire, one who had been dismissed from a former post for a serious offence.

In presence of such grave circumstances it is not surprising to find that the British Consulate is very meanly thought of as an Agency through which Indian Immigrants can apply for the redress of their wrongs. The Consul does every thing in his power to obtain justice for them from the French Government, but although his exertions lead generally to interminable correspondence, they are very seldom crowned with any success.

The Indian Immigrants generally appear at the British Consulate unprovided with any permit whatever from their employers, as they find it difficult and most commonly impossible to procure one; the consequence is they run the risk of being stopped and arrested on the way by the Police. Cases have very frequently occurred in which the interference of the Consul alone could effect the release of immigrants who had been thus arrested and imprisoned. The British Consul has, I believe, represented to the Governor the necessity that these Indians should be provided with permits by the Police, but nothing has been done, and the same irregular and barbarous system is still pursued. Indians on their way to see the Consul should either be unmolested or provided with a pass to give them free and easy access to him, without being exposed to the danger of arrest and subsequent imprisonment while on the road. I may here mention that in Mauritius any Indian working on an Estate can go and complain against his employer before the Stipendiary Magistrate of his District, or the Protector of Immigrants, and that he is not subjected to the risk of being arrested by the police. If his complaint should be found to be frivolous and unfounded he is liable to and receives punishment.

Indian Immigrants at Reunion are treated in such a brutal manner that no one can be astonished to hear that the Consul himself has made this remark: "Indians suffer great injustice in this Colony. The only advice I can give them is to leave the Island." The above was said with reference to the free Indians employed in St. Denis. This expression of a free Indian being employed may seem an anomaly, but is to be explained in this way, that when an Indian Immigrant (man or woman) has finished his or her engagement, he or she is not allowed to stay in the Colony and trade or work on his or her own account, unless he or she is under engagement to an inhabitant of the Island.

The condition in which many of the Indians are who go to the British Consulate with complaints is really pitiable. Worn and emaciated, almost in rags, numbers of them who are sellers of milk complain bitterly of ill treatment and loss of wages, most of them earning only from 4 to 6 shillings per month, and they suffered the above through not having sold the milk issued to them in the morning. They are employed by creole women, who resort to the unlawful and scandalous practice of mixing the milk remaining unsold on the previous day with that of the following day, the consequence being that the milk turns sour and bad, and the sellers are exposed to great abuse from the public, and to kicks and rough handling from the women who employ them.

Towards the end of November 1875, a batch of prisoners who were on the point of being sent back to India, were inspected by the British Consul before their embarkation. It was really heart-rending to witness a number of the Queen's subjects thus assembled at the Immigration Depot, reduced to such a condition—some of them being almost skeletons. Their sad and forlorn state must have moved the Consul. Among them three had lost their eyesight, and of these two were quite young, being about 22 and 23 years of age respectively. Some sort of indemnification must, I presume, have been made to them, as they were rendered stone-blind while in the forced service of the Government of the Island. The Consul must also have remarked in this batch of prisoners one who was brought in a litter, and who died a day or two subsequently. It appears that a band of prisoners is generally at work at the "Barachois" which is on the sea shore where the surf is strong, particularly at St. Denis; and that many of them have their sight injured through salt spray getting into their eyes. It is melancholy to behold them at this sort of work, and Indian women under engagement, found guilty of desertion, condemned to work on public roads.

It cannot be contested therefore that in the name of humanity a Protector of Immigrants whose proceedings would be closely watched by the British Consul, should be appointed by the Government of India. This would in a great measure put a stop to irregular proceedings and oppression on the part of the French Immigration officials, planters and others. I cannot too strongly insist that the only effectual remedy would be the appointment of a Protector of Immigrants by the Government of India, who might communicate with the French Government officials through the Consul, and that the latter should be instructed to inform the local Government that, in the event of his representations on behalf of Indians remaining unattended to, this would probably cause the Government of India to put a stop to emigration from that Empire to Reunion. It is too much to expect, as is the case under the present system, that the Consul should have the duties of a Protector of

Immigrants to perform in addition to those incumbent on him as Her Majesty's Consul.

The frequent absence of the Consul from St. Denis is keenly felt by the Immigrants. Many of them who wish to consult him, leave the Consulate after repeated visits in disappointment and disgust. When he is required elsewhere there should be a Vice Consul to replace him, more especially in a Colony like Reunion, where there is a large number of Natives of India.

I take the liberty of stating that in submitting the above remarks to your Lordship, I have been influenced by completely disinterested considerations, having been simply moved by a profound feeling of compassion for the unfortunate and miserable condition of my fellow-countrymen and countrywomen in the Island of Reunion.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) V. RAJARATHNUM.

The Government of India, we submit, does not do its duty fairly by the poor laborers, who are tempted to leave their country and to work in the colonies. It ought to insist in all cases upon the appointment of a Protector of Immigrants under its own authority. The Indian Associations ought to move the Government of India on the subject.

MR. LOBB'S LETTERS.

(Concluded.)

THE last subject on which Mr. Lobb's letters to us are preserved is the Famine of 1873-74. Mr. Clarke had addressed this journal a very able letter, in which he enunciated what he held ought to be the policy of the Government in that crisis from the stand-point of the rigid political economist. All the letters which we had received from Mr. Lobb on the subject cannot unfortunately be found, but the following dated the 5th October 1873 is the first in chronological order of those left:

"The more I think over Mr. Clarke's letter to you the more thoroughly fallacious his whole argument seems, except from the point of view of pure commercial selfishness. Does Mr. Clarke suppose that any one who is in the receipt of say Rs. 100 per month is in the slightest danger of starving? Will not the food merchants find enough rice and corn somehow or other so long as they can get an enormous price for it? Is it not to their interest to keep the supplies low, and will they not manage to do it if their pockets are the only element that society chooses to take into consideration? If the amount of food is halved, but prices are trebled, it is manifestly to the advantage of these gentlemen that there should be no more than half the ordinary supply; if they can raise prices still higher it may be to their interest to diminish the supply still further. It is manifest that if they are impelled only by selfish motive that they will take the utmost advantage of our various social disadvantages in order to make out of the community as much as they can. The Government is the only organisation in this country that could defeat the machinations of such conspirators, and Government could defeat them by pouring food into the country with unsparing hand. It ought to be a national affair, and even if there were a considerable loss at the time this should not stand in the way of remedial measures. Who dreamt of loss when some useless railway is to be constructed for so-called strategic purposes, and when other costly and perhaps equally useless public works are to be undertaken? Who dreamt of loss when Governors of Bombay were allowed to build palaces and incur other expenditure in the most reckless way? But if a £1,000,000 or more be lost in giving certain life to a million starving souls, the case becomes desperate and the Government deserves to be ostracised for its charity. And suppose some hundred mercantile gentlemen were to lose their profits for a single year, which is the greater loss—the profits of a single year, profits of this handful of gentlemen, or the lives of half a million of ryots?"

Now let me make a supposition. Let it be granted that by some exceptional means each ryot could be placed in the position of those I have mentioned above with Rs. 100 a month. According to Mr. Clarke's theory they must still starve because there is not enough food in the country for the whole population. Now take the economists on their own ground, I maintain that under these circumstances—with existing organization of civilized society—we should soon find our mercantile friends managing to bring enough food into the country to transfer this money from the pockets of the ryots to their own. Where the prey is there will the vultures be gathered together. Now if commercial greed could act thus in order to get an enormous price, Government could do the same in order to get a fair price. If you leave one thing to the unrestrained play of the selfish instincts wide-spread calamity must ensue. If you regulate on higher principles there may be temporary difficulty and temporary loss, but there need be no destruction of life, no permanent injury to society.

I object altogether to private subscriptions. They simply put money into the pockets of the usurers. If the Government wants money let it tax us.

I am convinced that it is very deceptive to treat those questions as you would treat a mathematical problem, or a game of chess. Mr. Clarke's mathematicism looks all very pretty upon paper, but would be utterly valueless in practice. Mr. Clarke's theory about the Sahib sitting by the bedside of the dying ryot would have been highly amusing if the subject had been less solemn.

Then followed the following letters:

Kishnaghar, 9th December 1873.

"Many thanks for your kind letter. I am glad to find that my observations were welcome to you. I simply intended them—as you have taken them—as a corrective of Mr. Clarke's cold mathematicism. Mr. Clarke I dare say is as kind a man as any one, but like most of our modern lights he is too much inclined to reduce all social problems to a few simple data which can be arranged and reasoned upon in an almost mathematical manner. The root of all the evil is the suppre-

macy given to the intellect. The more I study such arguments as Mr. Clarke's the more convinced I am of the validity of Comte's fundamental doctrine that the Intellect should be the minister though not the slave of the Heart. The sympathetic instinct cannot be omitted in social problems, and moreover these instincts should ever stimulate the intellect.

As to publishing letters under my own name I must tell you exactly how the case stands—

In the first place, I have promised not to write any more in the periodicals. My letters to the *Bengalee* on our Indian Raja were considered injudicious, and I then determined to withdraw altogether from any interference with political or social questions while I remained a Government servant. I might perhaps if I chose write with impunity, but having given the promise I intend to adhere to it strictly. I still however consider myself free to write in book or pamphlet form, but I should do even this cautiously. I think for a Government servant this is perhaps the right course, as a servant always has ample opportunity for impressing his views upon those in authority, as strongly as he likes. I have never found a syllable of objection made against the utmost freedom of speech in an official form. Of course it must be done respectfully, but there is no difficulty about that.

In the second place, I came forward about four years ago as an advocate of non-anonymous writing, have never said hard things against those who do write anonymously so long as they are fair and temperate, but I prefer the open practice, and leaving once publicly come forward as a champion of this practice I must not now abandon the position I have taken up.

My letters to you were dashed off very hurriedly and would be hardly fit for publication, even if circumstances would allow of my consenting to their being published. If however any passages in them struck you as likely to be acceptable to your readers I have no objection to your quoting them as coming from an English friend of yours (if you will permit me to call myself such).

It is a subject I should like to have spoken upon much, had I been free, but in speaking upon it I should have wished to avoid any kind of rivalry with Mr. Clarke. A discussion would do no good as we start from fundamentally different principles, and the subject is one too solemn to be made a bone of contention between hostile dilettantes. I could not prove the infidelity of Mr. Clarke's conclusions. Probably there would be very great loss, and may be some confusion in trade operations, if the Government were to interfere. But such considerations ought not to stand in the way of benevolent action. Who ever thinks of loss when millions are to be saved upon organizing an army, upon constructing iron clais upon building barracks, upon subsidizing railway companies and so forth. The community must be prepared for loss, and if we all contribute our quota the loss would not be much felt. But I insist—and insist most strenuously that this is not a matter of charity. It must be a Government question, the Government alone in this country has the organization necessary for breaking the force of such a calamity, and if England should come to the rescue, she ought to act through the Government and not through what is called private enterprise.

Kishnaghur, 15th December 1873.

I am no authority upon the state of the crops and cannot say any thing from personal experience. But a friend of mine here who does see a good deal of the country and upon whose opinion I can rely, seems to think that we shall tide over the crisis without any severe suffering. The due relation between Government servants and the Press is not one ever easy to determine. But I think we may safely say that it would not do to allow any large number to take the same license which my friend Mr. took. I know he is as honest as the day, and spoke from the bottom of his heart. But this rather aggravates the difficulty than otherwise. Government can only look to the effect likely to be produced upon the minds of the people when they see that there is a resolute and zealous propaganda hostile to the established order carried on with impunity in the very Holy of Holies itself (the B.C.S.). Now I think my writing was open to objection as tending to give force to this anomalous state of things, and for this reason I regret having touched upon so delicate a subject at all. By doing so I have placed myself in a false position and cut myself off from speaking upon topics which I could handle in without harm and without offence. I have always thought that the first duty of a Government servant is to the Government which he serves. If there be higher duties and he thinks his obedience to Government incompatible with them, he should resign. The British Government in this country has its faults no doubt, but I don't think that a desire to stifle honest opinion of any kind is among them. I don't think any objection would ever be made to the calm and rational discussion of any question whatever. But no Government could ever tolerate among its own servants appeals to evidence, and prophetic warnings of expulsion and other evils dire unless it speedily abandoned the power which it had so wickedly grasped. I don't say that I was amenable to such charges, but there had been some very inflammatory writings which I appeared to endorse by the position which I took up.

Believe me however that, although my pen is silent in the Press, I shall never cease to sympathize with the native public whenever they are struggling in a good cause, and shall not fail to exhibit that sympathy by private correspondence and any other means legitimately within my power.

Willingly grasping the hand of good fellowship which you so kindly offer believe me ever.

P.S.—That is in my opinion a very excellent article of yours in this week's *Patriot* on Mr. Clarke's letter. It is extremely well reasoned, and seems to me unanswerable. There was also in the previous article an extract from a letter by Mr. Cochrane which I much liked; it seemed to put the whole thing in a nutshell."

In the last letter, which is preserved, Mr. Lobb expressed his strong opinion that the Governor General of India was more or less a puppet in the hands of others, and that the first manifestations of Lord Northbrook's Famine policy were not at all decisive. We give it below, it is dated the 25th December 1873:

Kishnaghur, 17th December 1873.

I fancy the economists are terribly savage with your article on Mr. Clarke's letter. This shows that it has told. It appears that many exalted economists thought Mr. Clarke's letter a wonderful performance, deserving of the highest commendation. I expect you have somewhat taken the wind out of the sails of these gentlemen.

I was foolish enough to call one of them I had written to you on the subject, and of course they trace my hand in the extracts you have quoted from my letter. I expect this is even more dangerous ground than the English Raj, for it would more effect our *amour propre*. I hope they won't think that I am adopting an underhand mode of attack, as I would sooner come forward boldly and give my opinion than that they should think that I tell you candidly. I dread these economists more than all the repressive governments in the world. Apparently cold and scientific as they are, they combine the fanaticism of a Robespierre with the desperate in-

tolerance of the Holy Inquisition. You see in this crisis which we are now undergoing how remorselessly they apply their theories.

For my own part I can't conceive how any one who has the qualifications of a statesman could consent now-a-days to occupy the Viceregal Throne of India. Pardon me for telling you frankly that I look upon that throne as a piece of ornamental humbug, and the man who occupies it must always be a puppet, a tool in the hands of others. No statesman would consent to occupy such an ignominious position. The £25,000 a year would only make it all the more distasteful to a really governing mind.

As to the famine I must confess that the utterances of the Government of India are worse than anything I had anticipated even from the great interpreter of the famous educational despatch of 1854 (I think that is the correct date.) The Government says almost in the same breath that it ought not to interfere and yet that it must interfere, and while interfering refuses to take the one measure that can make interference effectual—viz., the prohibition of the export of food. The Government of India seems afraid of its own policy. It sadly needs a little of the supreme confidence of the Government of Bengal.

These letters give some glimpses of the thoughtful mind which indicted them. The premature death of Mr. Lobb is a loss to India and to the cause of free thought and free speech.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

A FRIEND has received a letter from Mr. Rivers Thomson, from which we are glad to learn that that gentleman likes the climate of British Burma, and is enjoying much better health there than he did enjoy in Calcutta, and has therefore no intention of going home as rumoured.

WE ARE glad to learn that there is no truth in the rumour that Babu Nilamber Mookerjee has resigned the office of Chief Justice of Kashmir and assumed charge of the Silk concerns of His Highness the Maharaja. There has been no change whatever in the position of the Babu. He continues to be the Chief Justice of Kashmir and general Superintendent of Silk filatures.

SIR WILLIAM MUIR has been offered a seat in the Indian Council, and leaves India in November next. Although the strings of Indian financial administration during the last four years were chiefly in the hands of Lord Northbrook, still he proved a docile and obedient lieutenant. He is a safe man, and his wide experience was of great value to the late Viceroy. His high personal character and private virtues have won for him great respect.

How is it that our district officers so easily lose their heads? The following scrap, which we have received from our Assam correspondent, shews what we mean:

"Captain T. B. Mitchell appears to be determined to make himself very unpopular at Nowgong where he has been posted as an Assistant Commissioner. Lately he passed an order prohibiting the beating of drums and the use of other ordinary native musical instruments by the people even at times of auspicious domestic occurrences and national festivities. People fear to question the legality of this order and dare not bring the matter to the notice of the Chief Commissioner."

We hope Colonel Keatinge will administer a proper cure to this madness. It is small matters like this which fill the people with discontent.

THE FOLLOWING, which has been furnished by the above correspondent, has a tinge of romance about it:

"At Dhubri at about 12 o'clock A.M., of the 18th instant, a Cooly Sirdar en route to Upper Assam cut to death his younger brother and two other companions by a sharp instrument commonly known as *Tanghi*. There was no struggle for life on the part of the poor men who met with instantaneous death. Just after despatching his victims the murderer surrendered himself to the Police and the Magistrate, to whom he stated that after toiling hard for nearly a year he could only spare Rs. 24, which he intended to present to his old and infirm parents at Ranchi in fact purchased some clothing for them out of that sum. The three murdered men had the meanness to dissuade him from gratifying his wishes, so much so that they got from him thro' stratagem the money and clothing he wanted to give away to his father and mother. This provoked the devilish son so much that he murdered the men at once."

The life of the man ought to be spared. Nothing could be more chivalrous than his sense of filial duty.

THE SINCERITY of Government in fostering native talent is best tested in individual cases. We will give an example. Babu Nobinchunder Roy is the most experienced native officer of the Accounts Branch of the Public Works Department and very highly thought of. In May 1874, he was appointed temporarily Deputy Examiner of Public Works Accounts, and posted for a few months to the Public Works Accountant General's office. As soon as the Directorship of State Railways was created the services of Babu Nobinchunder were placed at the disposal of Col. Williams, the Director, to whom he rendered a yeoman's service by drawing rules, forms &c. He was next ordered to Bombay as Deputy Examiner, where he discharged his duties to the satisfaction of his official superiors. He has now been posted under the Government of the North Western Provinces. It is worthy of remark that while Babu Nobinchunder has been during the last two years drafted wherever his services have been required, and good work was taken out of him, far from being rewarded with promotion he has not yet been confirmed in his appointment. Take however the parallel case of a European officer in the Department. Mr. J. L. Macpherson we are told was appointed in September 1874 an Assistant Examiner, 2nd Grade, and promoted to 1st Grade in February 1875, and again promoted in February 1876 to the rank of Deputy Examiner. Such is the comparative treatment of the Native and the European in the higher ranks of the public service! One fact is worth a thousand speculations and hard assertions.

ON THE principle better late than never we welcome the movement set on foot at Barahanager to memorialize His Excellency the Viceroy against the Mofussil Municipal Bill. A meeting was held in the Barahanager Jute Factory Co.'s Bungalow on Sunday the 21st instant, Babu Shumbhuchunder Mookerjee in the chair. Several Resolutions were passed, and a petition to the Viceroy was adopted praying that His Excellency will be pleased "to veto the Bill and to direct the preparation of another draft more in accordance with the requirements of the times and the aspirations of Her Majesty's subjects in Bengal." We are sorry that we cannot give the resolutions and the petitions for want of space. Similar meetings ought to be held in all the towns in the Mofussil.

DR. PAYNE, the new Health-Officer of Calcutta, has started a crusade against old tanks in the town. But the remedy seems to be worse than the disease. The conservancy department is filling them with the town sweepings, which are complained of by the neighbours as a much greater nuisance than the tanks themselves. Then the charges made seem to be enormous. One proprietor for instance tells us that he has been asked to pay Rs. 2300 for the filling in of a tank covering an area of 23 cottahs. If the site of the tank were sold even after it was filled up it is doubtful whether it would fetch that sum. Surely this is not the way the Justices should cooperate with the owners in filling in dirty tanks.

AT THE last annual exhibition of the Canning College, Lucknow, Sir George Couper, the Chief Commissioner, made the following remarks:

"The public departments want the best men they will have. Now, who are the best men? At present Bengalees seem in a great measure to monopolize these appointments. I haven't a word to say against the Bengalees. On the contrary, I hold them up to you as an example of what education combined with energy can do. But I refuse to believe that the natives of Oudh generally are inferior in intelligence, in industry, and in amenability to discipline to the denizens of the Delta of Bengal. I say then to you, young men of Oudh, meet the Bengalees on their own ground, show that you are their equal in intellectual attainments as well as in their habits of industry and obedience. Beat them, I say, by honorable emulation in a fair field; and I for one have no doubt whatever that you will eventually succeed to the positions which they at present so worthily fill in all the

various departments in which employment is to be found."

While we appreciate the compliment paid to the Bengalis, we must confess that it has a tendency to create a feeling of hostility between them and the natives of Northern India, which we do not like. Fair field and no favour is our motto—but then there should be no distinction of race or religion. How often are the "inherent rights of the children of the soil" ignored for the sake of men, who belong to the ruling race, or who have half their blood in their veins!

SIR FRANK SOUTER has avenged himself upon Mr. Nowroji Furdoonji. The Parsee gentleman, whilst in England in 1874, had written some letters to the *Times* commenting severely on the neglect of duty of the Police in respect of the Bombay Riots of that year. Sir Frank Souter had suffered much in that matter, and he seems to have readily availed himself of the opportunity offered by Mr. Nowroji Furdoonji to discredit his statements. The following report of what Mr. Nowroji Furdoonji had said at a recent meeting of the Town Council had appeared in the Bombay papers:

"Mr. Nowrojee Furdoonjee hoped the Council would allow him to point out that in case of fires in dense neighbourhoods of the native population, it was customary, so he was informed, for the native owners of property in danger of the fire to pay the police quietly very large sums of money. Therefore, when the Council granted a sum of money it should be remembered that it was small and trivial compared to what was paid in rewards."

Sir Frank Souter in a letter to Mr. Nowroji Furdoonji thus notices the statement:

"As the members of the Force of all grades are by the standing Police orders strictly prohibited from receiving money from any body except with my sanction and through me, I have the honour to request you will do me the favour to furnish me with any information in your possession in support of the statement you have made before the Town Council, and which may help me in my enquiries. I may think fit to set on foot with the view of ascertaining the correctness of your statement or otherwise."

I need not say that I consider this charge made by you publicly against the police under my command a most serious one and of a nature such as I presume you would not have thus prominently brought forward unless prepared to substantiate it."

Mr. Nowroji thus replied:

"In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, I beg to state that I simply brought to the notice of the Town Council the report generally current among the native community, which came to my knowledge in connection with the late fire in Don Tar Street, that it was necessary to give large pecuniary rewards to the police with a view to induce them to exert themselves on behalf of those house-owners who paid them best when the question of remunerating the police for their exertions in extinguishing fires came up for consideration on Tuesday last. I considered it my duty to bring the report in question to the notice of the Town Council. My able colleague, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, corroborated me on that occasion. You will have observed from the newspaper report of the proceedings of the Town Council that in reply to the Municipal Commissioner's enquiry, I stated that I had no personal knowledge of the matter."

I made enquiries on this subject at the time of the late fire, but, as usual in such cases, I could not get any one to come forward to substantiate the report above referred to, otherwise, I should have considered it my duty to bring the matter to your notice. Reports like these should not, in my humble opinion, be set aside as unworthy of credence, but should be borne in mind and their truth tested on the occasion of fires which may take place hereafter in densely peopled localities. If you take steps at a suitable opportunity to institute a searching enquiry into this important subject you will possibly be able to ascertain the correctness of the report."

The above evoked this rejoinder from the redoubted Commissioner of the Bombay Police:

"I am in receipt of your reply to my letter No. 1521 of the 10th instant, in which you do not deny the correctness of the statement quoted in my letter and reported in the *Times* of India of the 10th idem as having been made by you before the Town Council, though it is clear you had no real foundation for making such a statement and that you are unable to bring forward a tittle of evidence to support the accusation."

For my own part I should not have considered it at all necessary, knowing the quarter from which this statement has emanated to take the smallest notice of it, but as many of the European members of the Police Force, against whom this accusation has been directed, have not had the same experience, and as they naturally look to me for protection, I deem it my duty not only to give an emphatic denial to the charge, but to say that it is grossly false and calumnious."

This libel recalls to my recollection, and as in keeping with a somewhat similar one made by you against the Bombay police in a letter addressed to the London *Times* in April 1874 on the subject of the Bombay Riots, in which, amongst many other impudent assertions, you stated that the police had "made themselves scarce and did not come forth to quell the Mahomedan riot until it had raged for two hours." Such palpably false and discreditable statements thus rashly and publicly brought forward can only be attributed to the unfortunate imaginations of a diseased mind."

The tone of this letter is in keeping with the temper which the Commissioner of the Bombay Police is usually credited with. Surely he knows well as the head of the Police that charges of the

description alluded to by Mr. Nowroji Furdoonji cannot be easily proved. Our countrymen dread the Police, and are therefore generally reluctant to press or prove any charges against them. In the correspondence we give above the European officers of the Police were not singled out, and Sir Frank Souter's assumption was therefore quite gratuitous. Did it become the head of the Police to insult so wantonly a distinguished and public-spirited citizen because he from a sense of duty thought it proper to call the attention of the authorities to a rumour which had reached him, and which was a topic of general conversation?

Correspondence.

THE MAHISMARI ROAD AND SUNDARBANS RECLAMATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

Adverting to the *Hindoo Patriot's* leader criticising my letter headed "the proposed Mahismari Road" both published in its issue of the 15th instant I submit the following reply.

If one were disposed to transplant "Moore's Utopia" on paper somewhere near Mahismari in the Sundarbans what is the stubborn perspective of facts before us. Is the Local Road Cess Fund ample to cover the expenditure of a gigantic engineering scheme commensurate with the Sundarbans to be so graphically described by the *Hindoo Patriot*. Then again, given the fabulous sum required to reclaim 2,85,706 square miles of "area under forest and low jungle" and bid the oft-recurring audacious sea waves, to say nothing of our quinquennial guest—the eye one, from the Bay of Bengal, like Canute of former times, to keep aloof, have we an efficient staff under the Public Works Department to realize such a dream of Political Economy? To our mind the scheme is a splendid vision and we make bold to say if the feasibility of the startling proposal were submitted to M. Lesseps, it would disabuse the *Patriot's* Hypothesis on the subject. What does the past of the Sundarbans referred to by the *Patriot* indicate? As for the buzzard of dacoits and marauders it is borne out by the criminal Records of the District and does not the new Criminal Tribes Act make due provisions for the protection of life and property?

The Sundarbans reclamation theory which had found an advocate in Mr. Henckell of the last century has been found open to grave exceptions with the advance of Meteorology and cognate sciences which are now household words to even laymen. The wholesale reclamation of the Sundarbans will bring in its train evils which the clearance of 18,23,51,818 acres or 2,85,706 square miles according to the *Patriot's* own showing will hardly compensate. I am about to enumerate some of the evils.

Firstly—The Sundarbans is the principal source of our fuel, and even now we are in the act of experiencing the disadvantages which have befallen on the Townsman of Calcutta and its Suburbs from the partial clearing of the *Sundarbans*. The price of fuel has risen to a famine figure and many of the inhabitants of Calcutta and the Suburbs have as a matter of necessity adopted coal as an alternative. Now with coal as fuel we have to dispense with the brittle earthen vessels and to call into requisition the copper cooking utensils which impart a subtle but deadly poison into our system, to say nothing of the expenses.

Secondly—This reclamation mania if carried into effect in all its integrity will produce ill-regulated rains and perhaps no rains. Now the paddy fields situate within the Gangetic Delta depend solely and wholly upon the showers of Heaven for their cultivation and nourishment, and the fact has been established beyond controversy that lands absolutely or mostly devoid of trees, erections and natural risings such as Hills, Hillocks &c., do not emit vapors and consequently generate no rain. The Deserts—great or small—of this world are so many "scorched" instances of this theory and should no effective check be put on the reclamation hobby, the villages lying within the limits of the Gangetic Delta will in time be converted into a gigantic *Shahara*. In Italy, if I remember aright, the evils of the reclamation theory as regards the rains, were felt and after a mature and scientific investigation, the cause was ascertained and the evils prudently guarded against in time. Even the partial reclamation of the Sundarbans has made us experience the evils in the shape of droughts and ill-regulated and insufficient rains and to which cyclones and famines might be traced.

Yes, the Sundarbans was once a populous locality as stated by Mr. Henckell of Jessore, but what has led to its relapse into its present wild state? What but the encroachments of the sea; and to protect its limits from any future aquatic invasions it would require a net work of embankment so very gigantic in its structure and so very expensive in its carrying out that neither the engineering skill available in India nor the resources of the District will suffice to meet its requirements. It will require all the skilled labor and outlay of a Holland Dam or of a Suez canal—

The Government has now come to see the true bearings of the reclamation theory. It has wisely appointed "conservators of forests" with special injunctions to prevent the wholesale destruction of trees; and the sales of the Sundarbans grants have in a great measure, been discontinued. So far for the Conservation *vs.* Reclamation theory.

I proceed to meet the *Patriot's* enticing statement that the proposed Mahismari Road will make "about a lac of bighas accessible to the Ryots who may cultivate the land as Pykasts on cheap terms, and on a rough computation annually add 6 lacs worth of paddy to the food supply of the District &c. &c." On the principle of justice if the Road Cess Committee is to expend upwards of 20,000 Rupees for the benefit of a solitary estate why should it close its beneficent-rendering palm to other Sundarban estates and tracts in the same predicament and if even-handed justice be done to one and all the estates and tracts measuring about (according

to the *Patriot's* figures) 18,23,51,818 acres or nearly 60,00,00,000 Bighas of area under forests which may yield if brought under cultivation, according to the *Patriot's* computation 360 crores of Rupees worth of food supply to the market of the District, the Road Cess Committee of the 24-Pergunnahs will have to grant 12 crores of Rupees—a magnificent sum indeed with the only little qualification that the Committee have not the Royal mint at their disposal. But were the Committee seriously inclined to help all the Sundarban lands, it shall either have to raise the cess from 6 pies in the Rupee to the paradoxical figure Rs. 13-2-0 in the Rupee (!!!) for one year or to stop every other work of locomotion in the District for a period of 120 years to come. Is the *Patriot* prepared to support the above proposal as he has done it in the case of "a lac of Bighas" in and around Mahismari?

Should the clearance of the jungle be deemed to be an act of paramount necessity for the Road Cess Committee of the District, as the *Hindoo Patriot* says then according to his own showing the Sub-Division of Satkhirah which has a 5 percentage only of cultivated area has the most predominant and lawful claim of all and the (Sub-Division of) Baripore in which the estate Mahismari is situate having a 25 percentage of cultivated area has the least. We here marshal forth from the *Hindoo Patriot* the figures as to the percentage of cultivation in each Sub-Division of the District according to their respective claims—

District.	Sub-Division.	Percentage of cultivation.
24-Pergunnahs	Satkhirah	5.337
	Diamond Harbour	6.574
	Bussirhat	9.391
	Baripore	24.623

In response to the *Patriot's* query "as to why the proprietors of the remaining 3 annas have kept themselves back from joining in the protest and whether our correspondent is quite sure that the 13 anna share holders of Lot No. 41 have also joined." I have only to say that of the three annas share holders, Babu Gopal Das Dutta was not at home on the occasion and consequently the memorial was not presented to him for signature; Babu Prasanna Kumar Dutta is in an unsound state of mind for some time and as such was not asked to sign; Babu Hari Das Dutta alone refused to sign. But he had ere long applied to the Collector of the District against the proposed road and was a zealous Protestant against the Mahismari Road during the incumbency of Babu Mahima Chandra Pal, the late Sub-Divisional officer of Baripore but he has since his demise changed sides and views for reasons best known to himself; and Babu Hem Nath Dutta was understood to have identified himself with the Mahismari zemindar so the memorial was not presented to him for his signature. Relative to the latter part of the *Patriot's* query, the reply is that more than 13 anna de facto possessors of the lands have undoubtedly joined the protest.

We have no objection, however, to the District Road Cess Committee laying down a road connecting Mahismari with Suryyapore via Dhoas, at a nominal cost, for reasons which will appear hereafter. Dhoas on the Pali is already a terminus of a Kulpi Branch line constructed out of local funds. The Branch line from Suryyapore to Dhoas is accessible to four wheeled vehicles and is in communication with the Hats at Mogra and Usti. Suryyapore commands a good market and an interdistrict communication. It is 4 miles from Baripore and nearly 3 miles from the angle of the road to the Hats of Mogra and Usti which are said to be great points of attraction to the alleged counter-ryot petitioners. The road, we propose, will be an extension of the Dhoas road and run over the Government embankment along the margin of the course of the Piyali river, and as such no land will have to be paid for under the Land Acquisition Act.

In conclusion I have to ask the *Patriot* in all seriousness, the question what would be the line of demarcation for the Road Cess Committee's grant for the reclamation of the District should the suggestions of the *Patriot* be carried out in all its details. Now the Cess Committee have sanctioned an outlay of 20,000 Rupees for the conversion of "a Lac of Bighas of the Sundarban jungle into paddy lands." Next they may be solicited to grant as large sums with the same object for the construction of expensive bunds and embankments. And next they may be importuned should a drought ensue for a period of 2 or 3 years or upwards for grants of still larger sums for the construction of irrigation works with a view not only to supply the parched lands with water but bring sweet water in the bargain from the Hoogly or the Padma to slake the thirst of the tenantry of the salt lands of the Sundarbans.

I remain yours sincerely

KALI NATH DATTA.

Mazilpore 18th May 1876.

Comments on the above letter are superfluous. We cannot make room for further correspondence on the subject.—Ed. H. P.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Rs.	As.	P.
His Highness the Maharaja of Cashmere.....	28	8	0
Maharajah of Denkanal, Cuttack	13	4	0
Raja Hurbulubharain Singh, Sonbarsa	4	8	0
Jhansie Reading Room	13	4	0
Moulvie Amee"ooddeen Hossain, Backergunge...	19	0	0
Pundit Ratton Nath, Tajpore	13	4	0
Ram Chander A Udas, Esq., Indore	13	4	0
Lal Bahadur, Ajaygurdh	6	8	0
Secretary Mysore Literary Union	10	0	0
Nariad Native Library, Bombay Presidency	13	4	0
J. I. John Esq., Kota, Rajpootana	13	4	0
Babu Hem Chunder Chatterjee, Malda	10	0	0
Okhoy Coomar Banerjee, Allahabad	10	0	0
Bama Churn Bose, Malkhanagore.....	10	0	0
Shoshodhar Barooah, Shillong	13	4	0
Nobin Chunder Sen, Chittagong	10	0	0
Bhuggobutty Churn Mookerjee, Arrah	13	4	0
Romaprasad Chuckerbutty, Ampta	3	5	0
Nursing Chunder Mookerjee, Hingunghat	13	4	0
Kadar Nath Mookerjee, Mecklegunge	10	0	0

MONEY MARKET.

(May 27, 1876.)

GOVERNMENT LOANS.				Per 100 Rs.	
4	Per Cent., Promissory Notes	Rs.	100	8 a	100 8
4 1/2	" of 1870 (1885)	"	102	12 a	102 0
4 1/2	" of 1871 (1881)	"	101	12 a	101 14
4 1/2	" (Transfr.) of 1872 (1879)	"	100	8 a	100 12
5 1/2	" of 1859-60 (1879)	"	103	0 a	103 4
GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES OF 1867.				Per 100 Rs.	
5	Per Cent. for 10 years (1877)	Rs.	Nominal.		
5	" for 15 years (1882)	"	105	0 a	105 0
CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.				Per 100 Rs.	
6	Per Cent., of 1864 (due in 1884)	Rs.	109	0 a	110 0
6	" of 1865 (1885)	"	111	0 a	111 8
6	" of 1866 (1886)	"	111	0 a	112 0
6	" of 1867 (1887)	"	112	0 a	112 8
6	" of 1870 (1890)	"	112	4 a	113 0
6	" of 1872 (1892)	"	113	0 a	114 0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—May 24, 1876.

GENERAL.—The 16th May 1876.—Baboo Rajkishore Narain, Sub-Deputy Collector, Sewan, in the district of Sarun, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of the leave in anticipation of sanction.

Baboo Sheonundun Lal, B. A., Sub-Deputy Collector, Gopalgang, in the district of Sarun, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Sub-Deputy Collector of Sewan during the absence on leave of Baboo Rajkishore Narain, or until further orders.

The 18th May 1876.—Mr. G. B. Godfrey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Raneegunge division of the Burdwan district, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1871 for acquiring lands required for public purposes.

Baboo Juggat Chunder Roy, Sub-Deputy Collector, Moorshedabad, having resumed his duties on the 28th ultimo, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under orders of the 10th instant, is cancelled.

The Assistant Judge of Julpigoree for the time being is appointed, under Section 4 and Rule 7 of the Schedule of Act XVI of 1869, to be a Commissioner for the purpose of hearing appeals from decisions in suits, relating to immovable property, revenue and rent, in the Bhootan or Western Doorgas of the Julpigoree district.

The privilege leave for two months and twenty-three days granted to Mr. P. Hurley, Officiating 1st Inspector of Registration Offices, under orders of the 10th January last, has been converted by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India into leave on medical certificate for nine months.

The 19th May 1876.—Mr. A. H. Ward-Jones, Assistant Settlement Officer, Sonthal Perganah, is appointed to act, until further orders, as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in the Cuttack District.

Mr. F. W. R. Cowley Deputy Commissioner, Wards Estate, Patna, is allowed furlough for nineteen months, under Section 10 (a) of the Civil Leave Code, together with subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days with effect from the 1st June next.

Mr. H. J. H. Fasson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Atia division of the Mymensingh district, is transferred to Rajshahye.

The 20th May 1876.—Mr. James Cruickshank Geddes lately relieved of his special duty under the High Court, is appointed to act, until further orders, as District and Sessions Judge of Moorshedabad, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment. Mr. Geddes is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, which effect from the afternoon of the 19th instant.

Mr. J. F. Stevens is reappointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Moorshedabad during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. C. Geddes, or until further orders.

The 22nd May 1876.—Mr. F. F. Handly, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, acted as Magistrate and Collector of that district from the afternoon of the 7th April to the afternoon of the 8th instant.

The Sub-Divisional Officers of Jamoore and Beegoo Serai, in the district of Monghyr, are vested with the powers of a Collector under Act VII (B. C.) of 1868.

The 23rd May 1876.—Baboo Deno Nath De, Sub-Deputy Collector, Howrah, having resumed charge of his duties on the forenoon of the 27th April last, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under orders of the 9th February last, is cancelled.

POLICE.—The 15th May 1876.—Mr. George Broadfoot Haylock, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, Nuddea, is transferred to Rajshahye.

The 17th May 1876.—Mr. R. F. Guise, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, Rungpore, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 12-1, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st instant.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Gordon, District Superintendent of Police, Nuddea, is appointed to act as Deputy Inspector-General of Police during the absence, on leave, of Colonel A. H. Paterson, or until further orders.

Mr. A. Blair is appointed to act as District Superintendent of Police, Nuddea during the absence, on duty, of Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Gordon, or until further orders.

The 22nd May 1876.—Mr. F. A. Dawson, Assistant Superintendent of Police, reported his departure from India on the 7th instant.

Advertisements.

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Rs. 58 59 60 per dozen.
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Ten per cent Discount off the above prices for Cash.

NOTICE.

—co—

MY LEISURE HOURS:—A Poetical Work by Sambhoo Chunder Dey, B. A. B. L. Moonsiff of Shazadpore, Rajshahye. To be had of the Author and of Babu Shih Chunder Dey at Hooghly Judge's Court. Price 10 as.; by Post 11 as.

NOTICE.

"Appointment of Draftsman in Executive Engineers Office No. 3 Rungpore Branch Division N. B. S. Railway, has been filled up."

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NOTICE.

The Oriental Gas Company beg to announce that the price of Gas in Calcutta and Howrah will be reduced to Five Rupees per 1,000 feet from the 1st March next.

J. BLACKBURN,
Engineer and Manager.

January 1st 1876.

NOTICE.

A REWARD OF RUPEES 100.

Will be given to whoever will recover a Gold Hunting Watch by McCabe No. 06777 with Gold chain set with Sapphire, lost or stolen from Baboo Cally Kissen Tagore's garden at Alumbazar, Buranagore, and will furnish such satisfactory proof as would lead to the conviction of the thief.

NOTICE.—An Hony-Surgeon (Hindu) is desirous to be a family doctor under a native Sovereign or State. Possesses satisfactory testimonials. Apply stating salary to Doctor care of Hindoo Patriot.

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10 & 11 ESPLANADE.

IN THE COURT FOR THE RELIEF OF INSOLVENT DEBTORS AT CALCUTTA.

RE JADUB CHUNDER NUNDY AN INSOLVENT.

Notice is hereby given that an order was made by the above Court on 4th May that the order of adjudication made in the above dated 8th September 1873 should be rescinded and the vesting order should be discharged and that the official assignee after payment of his usual commission costs and expenses deliver over half the amount of assets in his hands belonging to the estate of Insolvent to Hurry Prosono Nundy one of the sons of the Insolvent and that the assignee should invest the remaining half in Government Securities so far as the same could be invested and endorse and pay over the Government Security and balance money to Sreemutty Radha Dossee Guardian of the infant son of Radha Prosono Nundy the other son of the Insolvent and that if the creditors of the said Insolvent—

—Should within one month from the date of the order file with the said assignee their claims the said monies are not to be paid out without the further order of the said Court.

(Sd.) SWINHOLE LAW & Co.

Attorneys for Anund Chunder Nundy, Hurry Prosono Nundy and Sreemutty Radha Dossee.

16th May 1876.

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প্রকাশিত হইয়াছে।

মূল্য ১ টাকা। ডাক মাফুল ০/০

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Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NENDI, at the HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS, No. 108, BARANUSY GHOSH'S STREET, CALCUTTA.